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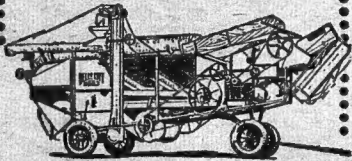
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Vol. XLIX

Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson

No. 9

James H. Gray, Editor

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Published Monthly by
Farm and Ranch Review Limited
Printed by Western Printing &
Lithographing Co. Ltd.
Graphic Arts Bldg., Calgary, Alta.
Entered as Second-class Mail
Matter at the Post Office,
Calgary, Alta.

Member of the
Audit Bureau of Circulations
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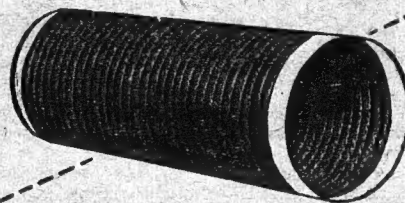
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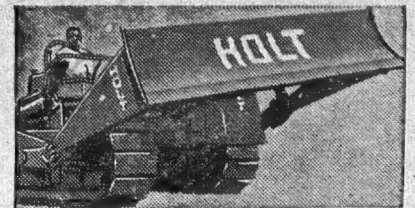
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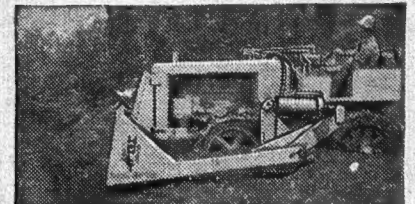
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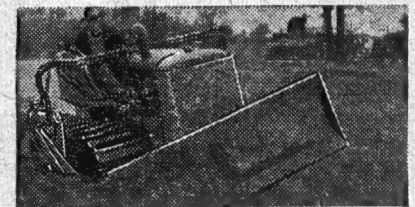
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The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

It wasn't the Prairie Farmers who voted against the Liberals

THE result of our national election were both gratifying and disappointing. Certainly the endorsement the people gave to the wise leadership and outstanding character of the prime minister was as emphatic as their rejection of Mr. Drew and the Conservative Party. In so critical a time, there was general recognition of the need for stability in our national government, stability coupled with experience. The electors went to the polls to ensure a return to the power of the Liberal party with a great majority. For the third election in succession, every Liberal cabinet minister was returned to power. That is the best indication of the confidence Canada has in Prime Minister St. Laurent and his party.

But the election was something more than that. It was a great personal tribute to the prime minister. Mr. St. Laurent came to politics late in life. He will go down in history as one of the most deeply respected of all our political leaders. That in so short a time he could so impress his personality and character on the consciousness of the Canadian people is a remarkable accomplishment indeed.

When we come to the contemplation of our own region, however, the results can only be regarded as unfortunate. Once again the people of the West have seen fit to indulge in the luxury of wasting their franchise by the election of splinter groups to Parliament.

It was said that the switch from the Liberals to the C.C.F. in Saskatchewan was in protest against the refusal of the Government to proceed with the South Saskatchewan river project. This is carrying a protest to a ridiculous extreme. The one way in which the people of Saskatchewan could get the dam built was by convincing the Liberal government that it was both practical and necessary. It is surely a queer way of behaving when, wanting something so badly, they reduce the numbers of their spokesmen by two-thirds inside the party councils. How the C.C.F. members can get this multi-million-dollar expenditure of federal money when Liberal members could not get it is a riddle only their supporters can answer.

It is time, we suggest, that we all had some second thoughts about this "protest vote" business. That phrase has been common for many years. It is particularly popular with the splinter groups who encourage guileless electors to vote for them in "protest" against some real or fancied grievance. But as Shakespeare once noted, there is an end to that sort of thing; there's such a thing as protesting too much. The end for the people of the West may well be that they will protest themselves completely out of influence on the affairs of our country.

The people of Greater Toronto, for example, elected more Liberals than Manitoba and Saskatchewan put together. Thus the coming Parliament will see a single large city exerting as much influence inside the government as two western provinces.

It would be indeed unfortunate, however, if the Government and particularly the Liberal party read more into the returns from the West than is actually there. A major error would be to blame the farmers for the Liberal losses or lack of Liberal gains. It would be a fatal error to interpret the election results as a repudiation by western producers of the Liberal farm policies.

Even a casual examination of the consistency returns shows that the Liberal strength in the farm communities held up well. It was the urban vote that resulted in Liberal losses, where there were losses. In Manitoba, for example, the Liberals won six out of seven rural ridings while the opposition parties, which won six seats, gained all but one in city ridings.

In the whole of Western Canada, the Conservative party did not elect a single representative for a farm constituency. In Saskatchewan, the C.C.F. gained four seats with less than 1,000 majority; in two the majority was only a hundred. In Alberta, the Liberals cut heavily into Social Credit majorities in several constituencies but it was the city and big town vote that saved the day for Social Credit.

Taking our Prairie region as a whole, we'd say that the election was a general endorsement of Liberal farm policy and, even in many areas which did not elect Liberal candidates, an enthusiastic one.

In Alberta, though they failed to gain any seats, the Liberals made substantial progress in the rural ridings. Indeed the Liberal vote in Alberta actually exceeded the Social Credit popular vote by a small margin. The only riding where Social Credit was able to increase its majority was in the Peace River where Mr. Solon Low, the "national" leader of the party, was running. To ensure Mr. Low's election the party concentrated all its effort in Peace River where Mr. Low had the help of 30 M.L.A.'s four cabinet ministers and the Premier of Alberta and the attorney general of British Columbia. Mr. Low himself was so fearful of defeat that he never left the riding to do any of the national campaigning expected of a "national" leader of any party.

Even in those constituencies which, largely through force of habit, returned Social Credit candidates in Alberta, the Liberals were nowhere disgraced. What both the Grits and Tories must realize, if they are to get the West back to a two-party system,

is that election campaigns start when the balloting ceases. They cannot nominate candidates at the last minute and hope to defeat politicians who work at being re-elected every day of the week, every week of the year.

Finally, despite the minor gains scored by the splinter groups, the election demonstrated once again that neither the C.C.F. nor Social Credit party is going anywhere in this country except toward oblivion.

★

No good all around

THE agitation by the Farmers' Unions, to have the Wheat Board deduct union dues from payments made farmers for their wheat is simply no good. It is no good for the Wheat Board, for it will add to its operating costs. It is no good for the farmers who do not belong to the Union because they'll have to pay a share of the collection costs. It is no good for the Farmers' Union.

There is only one way in which any organization can survive and flourish. That is through an alert and lively membership taking and active interest in its affairs. Surely the farmers of the West know by now what happens to good organizations when the membership loses interest. One way in which interest is maintained is through association, through steady contact between members and between the members and the executive.

When the collection of annual membership dues becomes an order of business, somebody has to talk to the members. This provides the organization with a means to acquainting the member with what it is doing, and gives the member a chance to discuss the affairs of the organization. True, this is a troublesome and perhaps cumbersome way of keeping an organization solvent. But it is the only way in which a thriving organization can be maintained.

Granted it would be easier on the hired help if the dues rolled in automatically from the Wheat Board. But it would not be long before the membership changed from active to passive to disinterested. It would seem to us that the Farmers' Unions are aping labor unions too much. They are, in this instance, adopting one of the worst faults and greatest weaknesses of the labor unions, the check-off of union dues.

★

American farmers vote for control

WHILE Canadian farmers were concerned with our own General Election, American farmers were also going to the polls. They had to decide whether they wanted to return to the old open market system of wheat marketing or submit to severe governmental restrictions on the acreage of wheat they could plant. They voted 87.2 per cent in favor of acreage control.

Under the American system, the price of wheat was established at 90 per cent of parity, or roughly \$2.20 a bushel. With this government guaranteed floor, the futures markets also operated. But the \$2.20 wheat price had encouraged a vast expansion in acreage. The Government announced that

(Continued on page 6)

Farm and Ranch Editorials

The future market always made cheap bread possible

WHY has the British Government abandoned the system of bulk purchases of its food requirements and returned to the futures markets? Because the futures market through the years has provided the United Kingdom with a continuous supply of cheap food. This is not only the opinion of the Farm and Ranch. It is a blunt statement of fact by Lord Woolton, who was minister of food during the war. He recently laid the cornerstone for a new Corn Exchange in Liverpool. In the process he made a speech. In it he said:

"The history of the Liverpool Corn Exchange . . . is a history that has enabled this country through times of stress as well as of prosperity to have a plentiful supply of cheap bread. This country needs to import between four and five million tons of grain every year. Those of us who are responsible for the government of this country have come to the conclusion that an advantage lies in hastening the time when purchases of commodities can be made through channels of private trade in encouraging the resumption of the system which served us too well before the outbreak of the war."

There you have it in black and white — the reason the British re-opened the Liverpool futures market. They know from experience that the futures market enables them to get cheap wheat. It always has and they hope it always will.

For our part, we think it a forlorn hope. The reason the Liverpool futures market served the interests of the British consumers too well, and those of the Canadian producers so badly, is exceedingly complex. It worked because it was part of a system.

(Continued from Page 5)

unless the farmers agreed to acreage restriction, the floor price would be cut to \$1.20. Of course, the futures markets would still operate, but a "No" vote would have meant that the farmers would have to take their chances with what the futures market could get for them, above the \$1.20 floor.

Obviously, American farmers want no more truck with the open futures market. They too, have had enough of boom and bust. Anything, even government control of the acreage they can plant, would be better than that.

All this makes the Canadian advocates of the open futures system look sick. They have sought, through the years, to convince Canadian farmers that there was in fact a completely free futures system operating in the United States. They argued that it was this system that produced higher wheat prices in the U.S.A. Actually, the cause of higher U.S. prices was the government floor price. Once a surplus developed above domestic needs, the futures market was utterly incapable of handling it without a disastrous drop in prices. Futures market cannot handle surpluses in any other way, as Canadians learned to their sorrow, in the 1930's.

The British, from the time of the adoption of the futures system in 1878, were the world's bankers, and the world's peace-makers as well as the outstanding world traders.

The main reason Liverpool was able to supply cheap wheat was that British traders could scour the world for it, buy where they like and sell where they liked. The pound Sterling was world currency and all other currencies were convertible into the pound, and vice versa. Cheap food was essential to Britain during the latter days of the industrial revolution, when Britain was building up her great investments abroad. In the Victorian era, London fulfilled the functions that half dozen world organizations are now trying to provide.

But when the British were forced to liquidate the bulk of their foreign investments during the First World War, London was unable to continue its role as the world's banker. The economic upheavals of the 1920's, which was a period of continual crisis in world trade, produced currency controls and international contests in

monetary devaluation. The liquidation of the balance of British overseas credits in the second world war has completely changed the Victorian picture.

So long as they were loaded with money, the British could capitalize on the distress of the primary producers of the world. There were always primary producers who had to sell their wheat for what it would bring on a buyer's market. And the distress prices never got so low that the British didn't hope they would go lower. Today, through the operation of our Canadian Wheat Board and similar organizations elsewhere, the producers have been freed of the tyranny of the Liverpool futures market. Our supplies of wheat are in strong hands that are capable of carrying them. We no longer have to take the Liverpool price or starve. And the British, as a near bankrupt nation, can no longer use unlimited resources in its wheat purchases.

On balance, we are convinced that the British are in for a rude shock if they think that re-opening the Liverpool Futures will once again make huge supplies of cheap wheat available till the end of time. Mind you, we attach no blame to the British for hoping Liverpool can bring back an era of cheap wheat. But the candid admission of Lord Woolton, confirming as it does what Prairie wheat growers have always known, makes the apologists for the Winnipeg Grain Exchange look silly. Lord Woolton has kicked the last shaky prop out from under a case that was already in a state of collapse.

Work, wages, welfare and the German recovery

THREE different news stories in the past month, from three different corners of the world can be very usefully gathered into a single bundle. One, from Germany forecast that, in the near future, German competition in the farm implement field is going to be felt in Canada. The second reported that the Canadian packinghouse workers had been granted a six cents per hour wage increase. The third, which follows is from Time Magazine.

"Despite the price dip in natural rubber, which has fallen four cents a pound since May to a 3½-year low, tire makers will not cut their prices. Reason: they expect forthcoming wage hikes will more than offset the savings in raw materials."

We have here a summing up of a lot of things that are wrong with the world. A drop in raw material prices, or in farm prices, is never reflected in a similar decline in retail prices. The farmers who have gone to great lengths to increase production, which is the only way in which inflation can be combatted, are now faced with the surplus problem. Naturally the result has been a reduction in farm prices and the income of our farmers. But between the farmer and the consumer nobody else is taking any cuts. And that isn't all. The loss of farm purchasing power is being swallowed up, all down the line, by higher industrial wages.

In the granting of wage increases today we have a whole new set of arguments being accepted. Awhile back it was because the cost of living was rising. That was the big talking point. The cost of living stopped rising, so now the argument is that the packing plants have to raise wages because everybody else is doing it. So it is wages

and wages alone that keep the price up of the things farmers have to buy, and at a time when their own incomes are continually shrinking.

But this is only the first verse. There are the rising costs that result from a whole raft of "fringe" benefits and welfare schemes that are embedded in the wage structure today. We insist on not only a shorter work week but that we all work the same days of the week. And with unemployment insurance, any kind of work is no longer essential to life. Work is going out of fashion. That brings us to the German item.

The recovery of Germany, which was smashed worse than any other country in Europe, is the outstanding fact of life of our times. After the war, the Germans went to work. They have always been noted for their energy and this energy and capacity for hard work is rapidly restoring Germany to first place in Europe.

France and England, on the other hand, turned not to work but to welfare. The recovery there has been desperately slow. France has lived in a period of continuing crisis because neither the French people nor the French politicians had any desire to take the drastic measures needed to right the country's economy.

The result of German industry will be to overcome the tremendous advantage that North American machine production has given us. Mass production once gave us the cheapest goods possible to produce. But we have frozen so many rigidities into the system that it can now be undercut by the production of hand labor.

Canadian Foreign Policy wasn't an election issue

By BEN MALKIN

DURING the August election all four major parties differed from each other on almost all important policies: taxation, trade, marketing of farm products, housing, national health insurance. Yet one field, that of foreign policy, was not subject to disagreement, and was not made a campaign issue by any large group. It is remarkable that this should be so, for in other democratic countries, such as the United States, Britain and France, foreign policy has been a major election issue since the end of the war. Last year in the United States, much of the election campaign centered around the cold war with Russia, the hot war in Korea, and the building up of allies for strengthening the democratic position. It seems worthwhile to review the essence of Canadian foreign policy, since it is so unanimously accepted.

To begin with, no aspect of Canadian foreign policy is carried out by this country on its own. Everything it does, is done as a result of a collective decision taken by a group of countries which includes Canada. Canadian foreign policy, insofar as seeking peace through conciliation is concerned, is based on what the United Nations does; insofar as Canada seeks peace through building up military strength, it works through the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and insofar as it seeks peace through building up the economic strength of under-developed countries, it works through the United Nations, and the British Commonwealth.

By proceeding through collective action, Canada has, to some degree, surrendered part of its sovereignty. Three years ago, when the 25th infantry brigade was mobilized, it was turned over to the United Nations for disposal. The U.N. sent it to Korea. When the 27th brigade was mustered, it was turned over to NATO, which assigned it to duty at Hanover, Germany. NATO has also placed Canadian fighter squadrons in France and Germany. Finally, Canada has given \$25,000,000 a year to the Commonwealth's Colombo plan for the development, by the Commonwealth countries, of India, Pakistan and Ceylon.

All in all, these international commitments, including the arms sent by Canada to NATO countries such as Italy and Holland, have been costing close to \$500,000,000 a year, a sum equal to about the entire Canadian budget before World War II. With so large an amount of money involved, coupled with some surrender of sovereignty, how is it, then, that Canada's

foreign policy was not a campaign issue?

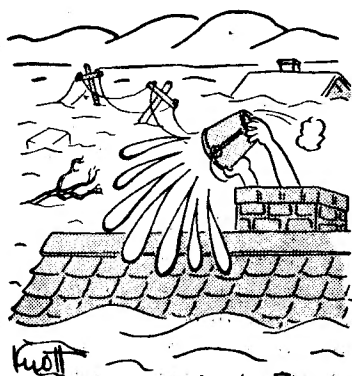
Big Change

Before 1939 many Canadians hoped that Canada could avoid being involved in future wars. Prime Minister Mackenzie King was lukewarm to the old League of Nations, was not a strong believer in collective security, and said that he did not see why Canada should become embroiled in a European war every 20 years. There were so many isolationists in Canada as in the United States, men who hated war, and because they hated it, thought the country could hide from war. This view turned out to be wishful thinking.

Almost every Canadian now accepts as a fact the view that if war breaks out Canada cannot avoid being involved in it. The task, therefore, is not to find a way to hide from war, but to prevent war altogether. The money being spent by Canada in the interests of collective security at the political, military and economic levels is being spent on preventive medicine. This means that everyone agrees to Canada acting in concert with other, like-minded nations to prevent war.

Now, if Canada is only a unit in a collective security setup, then this country is not really acting independently in foreign policy. Its policies are those agreed upon by all its allies. And if the Canadian government is not acting wholly independently, and if it is agreed that this should be so, and that Canada's decisions should be those of a collective group, then foreign policy could not be an election issue. If the Liberal party were to be criticized for its actions, the criticism would actually have to be aimed at the United Nations, NATO, and the Commonwealth.

The remarkable thing, then, is that Canada has given up a portion of its hard-earned sovereignty, and this fact is accepted without a murmur. It is regarded as the price of peace. It is a price that people in other democratic countries have hesitated to pay, so that in these, foreign policy has remained an election issue.



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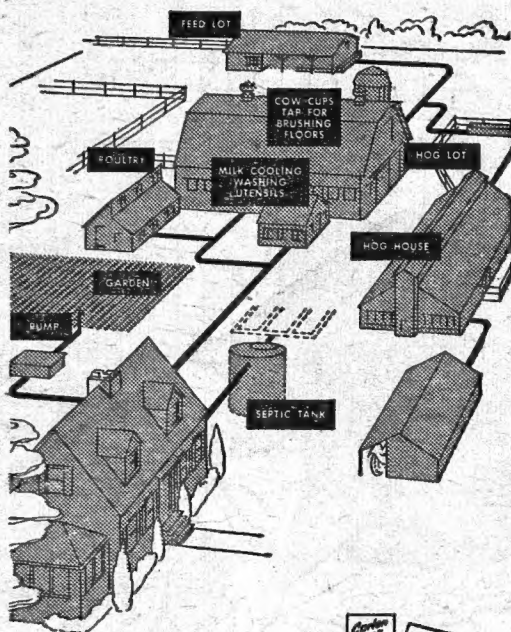
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Here are the facts on U.S. Crop Insurance

By NEWT GILBERT

ALL those who have suffered from the vicious hail storms of this year, or who can remember critical crop losses from other sources, must be keenly interested in some better form in insurance against such catastrophes.

If we were all satisfied with the protection afforded by present hail insurance coverage or by the Prairie Farm Assistance Act payments, there would be no point in considering any other programs. But since there is undoubtedly considerable dissatisfaction with present insurance, it must surely be advisable to consider any or all other programs which might appear to offer benefits.

One of the greatest drawbacks to the P.F.A.A. lies in that it does not deal and has never been intended to deal with the farmer as an individual. Payments are made on an entire area declared eligible for such payments and the area to be considered is basically the township, although there are several specific cases where parts of townships can be included. Therefore, a farmer in a normally good area, who may be making the largest consistent payments into P.F.A.A. funds, has no assurance of being able to receive benefits from such funds when he, as an individual, finds himself in need of assistance.

Payments from P.F.A.A. funds must be considered small when constantly increasing costs of farming are taken into consideration. The maximum payment to a farmer is Five Hundred Dollars. It is interesting to note that a farmer who operates on a large acreage may every year pay into P.F.A.A. funds, through the 1% deduction from his sales, more than he can receive in benefits in any year.

Something Better

Because of this general desire among grain producers for "something better", the Drumheller District Agricultural Society, in April of this year, sponsored a general meeting of farmers to consider crop insurance programs. The principal speaker at this meeting was Mr. J. Ray Maberry, from Great Falls, Montana. Mr. Maberry has been active in the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation program since its inception in 1939. It is from information provided by him and by other officials of the F.C.I.C. that the meeting received an outline of the United States program.

It is impossible, in this space, fully to trace the progress of the program through all of its stages. Only a sketchy outline can be given of the Crop Insurance

Program as it actually operates in our neighbouring State of Montana.

The Federal Government of the United States assumes all costs of administration of the program. This is done because no private companies offer the desired protection, and because stability of the farmers' income is of great benefit to the economy of the entire nation.

Early in the crop year—even before seeding—the farmer makes his application for insurance. One of the provisions of the application is an agreement by the farmer to supply information by a definite date as to acreage seeded. Since premiums and coverages are first expressed in terms of bushels per acre, these figures are determined and entered on the acreage report.

Premiums and coverages are determined by the classification of the area in which the producer's farm is located. Areas are classified according to fertility of soil, farming practices, yields, etc. Areas of like factors are put into the same classification, even though they are not adjoining. All farms in like areas get the same coverage and pay the same premium. Thus the crop history, over a long-time period, largely determines the premiums and coverage.

Typical Example

A typical example of premiums and coverages is that of Hill County, in the State of Montana. There the full coverage on summer-fallow is 7.9 bushels per seeded acre for a premium of 1.3 bushels per acre, and the full coverage on stubble crops is 4.3 bushels per acre for a premium of 1.1 bushels per acre. The fixed price per bushel in that vicinity is \$2.02, making it a simple matter to convert bushels to the dollar coverage.

It is important to note the protection afforded by the United States program. Payments "cover loss of production of wheat due to causes such as drought, flood, hail, wind, frost, winter-kill, lightning, fire, excessive rain, snow, wildlife, hurricane, tornado, insect infestation, and plant disease."

It is not the intent of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to insure that a farmer shall receive a profit from his crop, nor is it intended to insure him against the consequences of his own poor farming methods. The basic aim is to insure only his cost of production, or his investment in his crop. The method presently used to assure this is the insuring of a producer's crop for 60% of his long-time average yield. So, in the example given

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above, the coverage of 7.9 bushels means that this figure is 60% of a long-time average yield of slightly over 13 bushels per acre.

Under the program, when a farmer has his seed in the ground and has followed the accepted practices of good farming, he knows what his minimum return for the year should be. This knowledge enables him to plan his operation on a sound basis, and it makes farming more of a business than a gambling venture.

The premium figure noted above is the basic figure. There are reductions in that figure for larger acreages insured — up to a point; for prompt payment of premiums; for consistent participation without a loss; and for being in a county where the reserve of premiums earned over indemnities paid exceed a specific amount. In other words, the insured farmer receives the benefit in reduced premiums from good risk experience. And that is not true of the P.F.A.A., and is true only to a limited extent under present hail insurance schemes.

Crop insurance is becoming more necessary as the investment needed to produce a crop has increased. New and expensive machinery, seed treatments, chemical weed-control — all these have meant that the farmer who loses his crop has lost a larger investment, even if they have meant on the whole that better crops are being produced.

In Alberta we are prone to think of the serious hazards in wheat-farming, and it is certainly true that these hazards are dramatic and spectacular. Still, the long-time average yield on all acreage seeded to wheat in Alberta stands at about 17.5 bushels per acre, and it is doubtful if any area of similar size has as good a record. To the writer, it is evident that a soundly conservative insurance program, intended to cover only the cost of production of a crop, could not fail in any area where the average yield is as high as it is in Alberta. The success of such a plan, of course, would demand that it be underwritten strongly enough that the first few years, however adverse, could not bankrupt the program. With an average yield as high as ours, the good years would surely take care of the bad years — and that is the experience of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. A crop insurance program must be basically like any insurance plan — one of mutual benefit. I'll pay your losses in the years they occur, and you'll pay mine when my crop is lost. We won't all lose our crops in any one year — or if that catastrophe does occur, it won't happen often enough to affect the ultimate success of crop insurance.

We, as wheat-growers, must

determine if we are satisfied with the protection afforded to us by present programs. If we are not, we must be prepared to plan for a program under which, perhaps by paying a little more, we would become eligible for insurance payments designed to cover our cost of producing a crop, and hence of keeping us in business in the face of crop disasters such as we have all known.

Draining slough

THERE are three general ways to drain a slough:

1. Controlled drainage—when using this method the water is drained by a ditch which delivers the water to a natural water course or a relatively level area which can be easily flooded. A gate is usually placed in the ditch near the edge of the slough to regulate the length of time the area is flooded.

2. Pump and irrigate the high land by surface methods.

3. Pump and irrigate the high land by sprinkling.

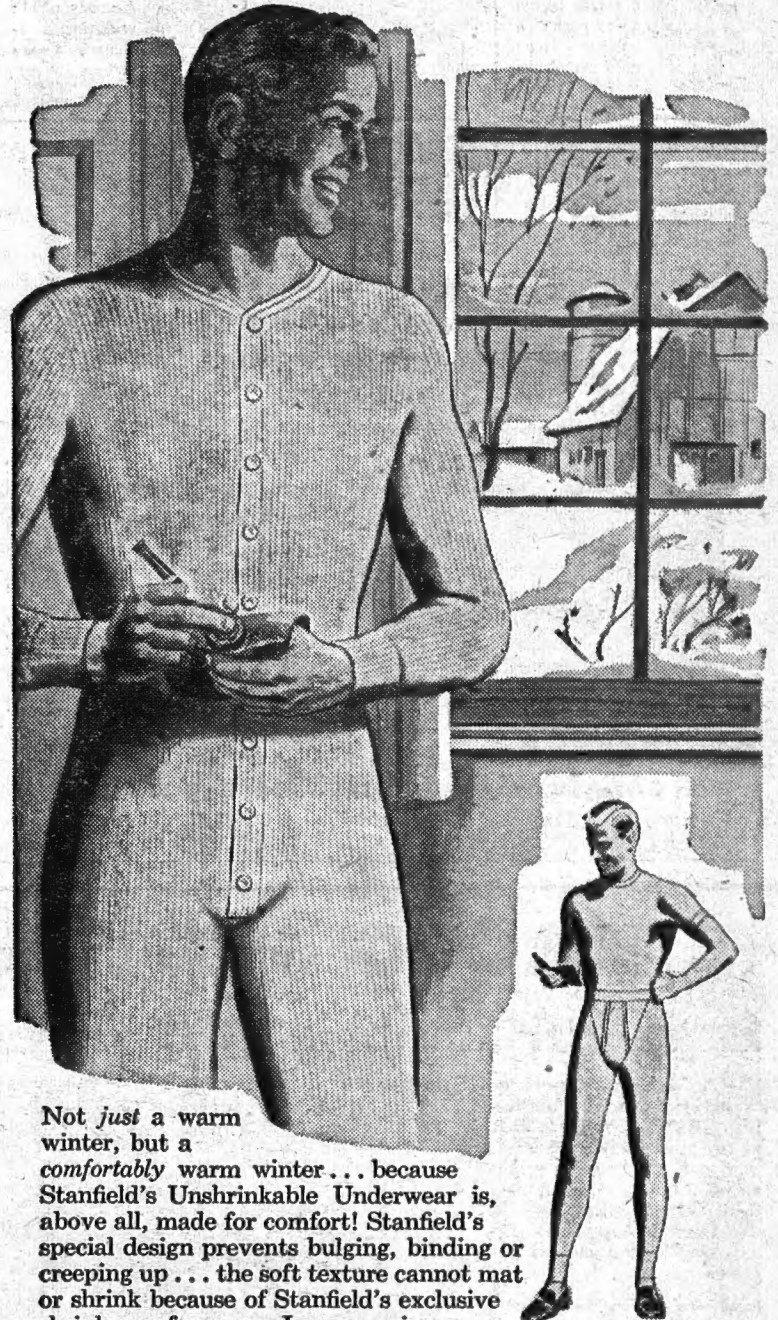
Fortunate indeed is the farmer who can drain his sloughs by the first method. This method is the cheapest, fastest and is free of the complications that go with pumping. For example, to drain a 10 acre-foot slough (one foot of water over 10 acres) costs about \$60.00 per year by ditch, \$300.00 by irrigating the high land by surface methods, and \$600.00 by sprinkling. The time required is 16 hours by the first method as compared to about 10 days by the second or third methods.

If drainage has to be accomplished by irrigating higher land the size of slough that can be drained in readiness for seeding is limited due to time required. In addition depth of slough must be considered. For instance, it costs the same to drain a 2-acre slough 5 feet deep as it does to drain a 10-acre slough 1 foot deep. For the same amount of money, therefore, five times as much land is drained.

Two problems are encountered when pumping from a slough — trashy water and foot valve placement. The trashy water problem can be lessened by using a screen around the foot valve or by placing it 2 or 3 feet below the surface of the water. Unless ditches are dug from the centre of the slough to the edge a long suction line is usually required to get the foot valve into deep enough water. This increases the cost of the equipment and labor bill in setting up the pump.

More detailed information on slough drainage is contained in the bulletin "Slough Drainage — Methods and Costs" which is available at the Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask.

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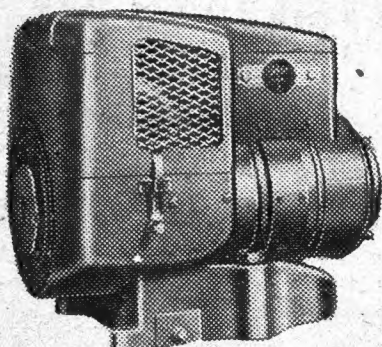
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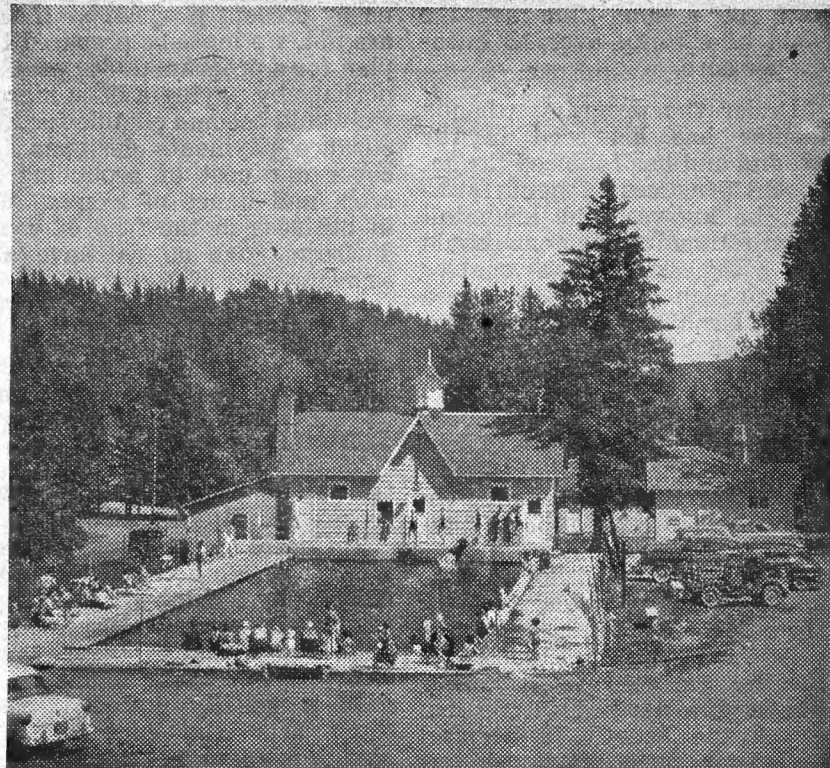


Photo by Richard Harrington.

The pessimists are wrong! Conservation IS gaining

By JAMES H. GRAY

PRAIRIE dwellers, who take the Canadian route to the coast on their vacations can now pass through an area that will show them how the country looked to the first explorers 200 years ago. In the process they will be impressed by the change that is everywhere apparent in the attitude of official Canada and unofficial Canadians to our natural resources.

It is still within the memory of most when conservation was an unknown word in connection with natural resources. As the railways went through to the coast, vast new forests were opened for exploitation. The eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, once covered by magnificent stands of timber were lumbered off and burned off. In the fashion of the times, what was wanted was taken regardless of future consequences. In those days our forest wealth seemed inexhaustible, so nobody worried about the next generation.

The most striking illustration between the old and the new is to be seen around Trail, B.C. The ore that fed the great copper and lead smelters contained a lot of sulphuric impurities. They were removed and went up with the smoke. But they didn't stay up. They settled back to earth and denuded hundreds of square miles of timber. The scars are still visible, but since millions of dollars were spent to install filters to remove impurities from the air regrowth has begun. In another 20 years nature will have completely covered these hills with new forests that will be lumbered for the benefit of Cana-

dians two or three generations hence.

Great Country

In the area now joined by the Hope-Princeton highway, Canadians can travel through 150 miles of forest primeval, through scenery unequalled anywhere on the continent, perhaps anywhere in the world. What makes the scenery is the trees, uncounted millions of trees that completely hide the rocky skin of the mountains.

The virgin forests are being lumbered, but they are not being 'lumbered-off'. The lumber cutters work under rigid government supervision. Trees are being cut so the stands of timber will improve, not disappear.

In the days of Simon Fraser, the only menace to forest health was lightning. It has been supplanted by man-made fire hazards. None of this is news. It is all old stuff. What is new is the strides that have been made in public education on the value of protecting our natural resources. Signs of these gains are everywhere. In the care that is generally taken with camp fires and the disposal of cigarette butts; in the fire danger thermometers that are posted up at filling stations and restaurants.

This awareness of the fact that we can exhaust our resources through waste and neglect runs all through the piece in western Canada. The experimental farm experts are inclined to take a rather dim view of the farmers' seeming lack of interest in soil conservation. Their eyes, as they wander around the country, are always caught by

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Earl Davison, Tintah, Minn.

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the obvious signs of wind and water erosion. They are easily discouraged by what they see.

The Other Side

But if the direction of attention is changed, if a lookout is kept for the farms on which an effort is being made to conserve the vital properties of the soil, there is plenty of evidence to see. In talking with farmers, particularly in discussion of crops to sow or machinery to use, one remark consistently gets into the conservation. It is:

"Well, anyway, I thought it might do the soil some good."

The point here is that nobody was saying that 25 years ago. Weeds, then as now, were a frightful nuisance on the rich Portage plains of Manitoba. A couple of Winnipeg engineers came up with a solution to the problem—a stubble burner. It was a rough copy of the gadget used to melt asphalt on city streets, a multiple nozzled machine that sprayed fuel oil at high pressure and created such an intense heat that all vegetation was cremated in a fraction of a second.

Scores of these machines were sold before the company went broke. What broke them wasn't resistance to the idea of burning stubble but the fact that the machines wouldn't stand up under farm usage.

Today farmers will burn off their stubble only as a last resort. That's generally true, though every district has its exception to the rule. But for one habitual stubble burner, there are half a dozen other farmers who pester their implement dealers for improvements to the straw cutters on the combines so that the straw can be mulched into the topsoil with less trouble.

Perhaps the best proof of the

strides that conservation has made is this: The most effective talking point it is possible to devise for any new piece of farm equipment today is this—it improves the soil. It is significant that this soil improvement theme is coming more and more to dominate equipment advertising. That's because soil improvement is something that farmers generally are more conscious of than ever before.

Carryover

NATIVE grasslands continue to provide a large part of the grazing for livestock on farms and ranches in Southwestern Saskatchewan. To maintain good beef gains these native grasslands must be kept productive. Grazing tests carried out at the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, show that if the native prairie is grazed too heavily it will not continue to produce the maximum amount of grass. Overuse reduces the strength of the individual plants of the high-producing grasses such as spear-grass and bluejoint.

Part of the growing leaves must be left on the plant to permit it to grow and develop food reserves in the roots for further growth the next season. This part that is left is known as carryover. Experiments have shown that this carryover should, in a normal year, be 45 per cent of the total grass produced.

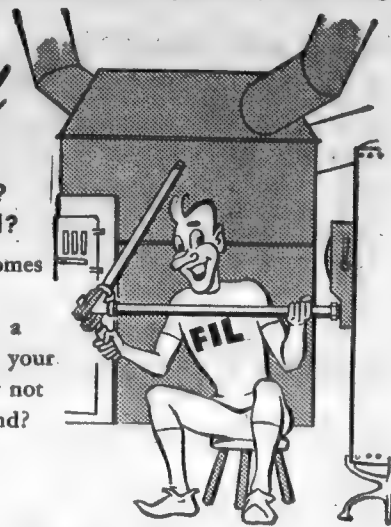
Carryover for grass, then, is like good winter feeding for cattle. A cow allowed to get too thin in winter is hard to fatten up the next summer. Grass grazed until it is thin, is also slow to recover. Keep your grass fat—allow the proper carryover.



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Its versatility on birds and small animals is well known but many shooters have yet to realize what can be expected in the way of performance on such game as deer or bear with rifled slugs. Last fall we found ourselves carrying a 12-gauge pump with a shot shell in the chamber and a slug in the magazine despite the fact it meant leaving a sweet shooting little 7mm rifle at home.

Thus equipped we could take partridge as we found them and our white tail after a quick flick of the action. More and more one-gun hunters are using this combination while they wait to acquire the rifle of their choice, guns being the price they are these days.

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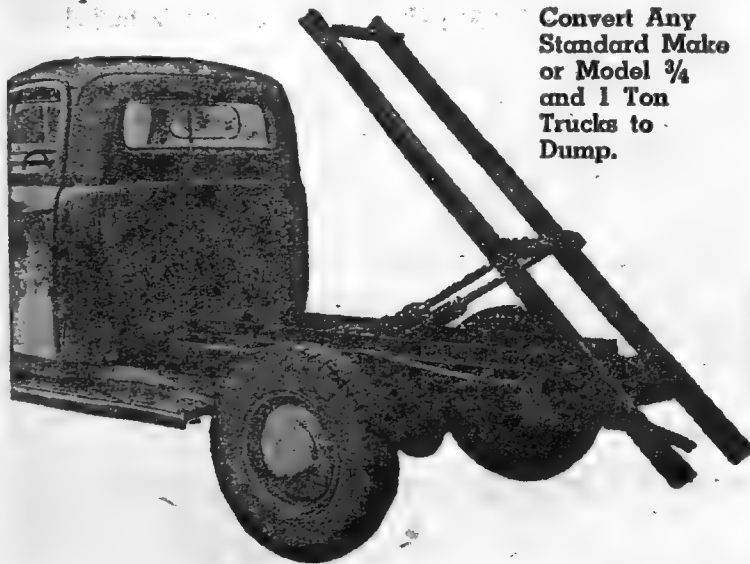


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Lazy Days



Photo by Don Smith.

Our orphaned bluebird had to be set free

By KERRY WOOD

THE three little bluebirds had an unusual start in life. Their parents had been driven away from the nest by a group of pugnacious English or House Sparrows, who proceeded to pile a quantity of nest-building material on top of the bluebird fledglings. Fortunately, the farmer and his wife saw a slight movement in the structure and investigated, thus saving the helpless fledglings from smothering. The kindly farm couple kept the three young birds for a few days, until two of the little ones became quite ill. Then the bluebird family was brought to our home for attention.

They were attractive birdlings, with a faint tinge of blue on back feathers to identify them as Mountain Bluebirds. Such birds are members of the thrush family, having the large bright eyes characteristic of that group. Their complete trust in us was very touching. Our kiddies wanted to fondle them all the time, but we directed their energies to finding food for the bluebird babies.

The youngsters took flyswatters and bottles outdoors to hunt for flies, spiders, small beetles, and anything else that bluebirds might enjoy. In addition to insects and worms, we also gave the birds finely chopped beef, fragments of juicy strawberries, and even fed them tiny pieces of bacon fat.

The fledglings were turned loose in our screened sleeping porch, which measures 8 by 10 feet. Bright-eyes was the sturdy member of the family, always fluttering his wings and chirping for food with beak agape any time a member of our family visited the porch. We spaced our visits twenty minutes apart throughout the daylight hours, aware of the fact

that young birds require two or three times their own body-weight in food per day to thrive. But the two sick birds were not well enough to feed naturally; they had to be taken in hand each time, their beaks coaxed open and a small portion of food thrust down their throats on the points of toothpicks. Bright-eyes was different: get the food anywhere inside his gaping yellow-lined beak, and he'd do the rest.

One Left

We were all saddened, two mornings later, when we found the sick fledglings dead on the floor of the small cardboard box in which we sheltered the birds at night. Bright-eyes was already out of the box, perched on the floor of the sleeping porch and fluttering his wings for attention. His loneliness was pathetic; we did all that was possible to make up for it. Our two girls took turns at feeding him, while young five-year-old Greg wanted to be present every time a member of the family visited the baby bluebird. The diet of insects, minced meat, and fruit was gradually increased, and we no longer had to use a toothpick to place the food down his gaping beak. Bright-eyes would reach for the food quite willingly. Sometimes he flew up onto the small table on which we prepared the food, to be handy to the source of supply.

The weather was disagreeable during most of the time we had the bird in our care. Thunder showers and hail storms were frequent, and often a wind was blowing. We fed him at shorter intervals to help the little bird combat the cold. After each meal, Bright-eyes would sidle close to our hands in a most appealing way, wanting to be,

gently picked up and held for a few moments within the warm hollow of our cupped fingers. Sometimes the bird would close his eyes and sleep, cosy in our hands.

The bluebird song is a brief trill, never considered much as a musical effort. Most of us are content to feast our eyes on the sky colors of these beautiful harbingers of spring; and don't mind their lack of singing ability. However, living with Bright-eyes as we did, the whole family became keenly attuned to the soft bluebird whistle and discovered it to be a lovely sound.

Waking in the mornings, we'd hear the low-pitched whistle from the nearby sleeping porch. After we'd fed the bird and warmed him in our hands, the bluebird never failed to utter a pleasant whistle by way of thanks. At evening, when we gave the wee bird a final feeding and placed him in his cardboard box for extra warmth and shelter, again we'd hear the soft and sleepy little trill, truly delightful to the ears.

Bright-eyes was now fully feathered and could fly. An instinctive independence was noticeable, also an increasing awareness of the wild birds among the trees a few yards from the sleeping porch. If a robin flew by, Bright-eyes watched it with interest. He'd cock his head to one side, listening to the lispings melodies of Yellow Warblers, while the harsh cry of a Blue Jay made him hunch down in momentary wariness. Once an English Sparrow became curious about the small bird behind the fly-screen and perched near, whereupon the bluebird uttered a shrill note that indicated it had no use for the species that had deprived it of its natural parents.

The little bird's maturity increased every day. It knew exactly how much food it wanted at each feeding. If we offered more, the bluebird showed displeasure by making an explosive snapping sound with its beak. Bright-eyes flew the length and breadth of the screened porch many times daily, apparently seeking to get outside among the trees. At night, the bird was no longer content to be sheltered inside the cardboard box: it wanted to reach the highest resting place available. The last nights in the porch, Bright-eyes slept with head under wing while perched on the back of a bench we kept there.

Now we had to decide what to do with our orphan. Should we send Bright-eyes to our good friend, the zoo-keeper in the city? There the bird would always be protected, though always behind screening wire. The freedom of field and forest and the wide avenue of summer skies is a bluebird's heritage, so the family voted to turn loose our little pet. There were tears from the kiddies at

the decision, but they agreed that they wanted Bright-eyes to live a wild bird's life.

Free at Last

On a sunny afternoon the whole family took the soft-whistling bird a drive out into the country, far beyond the range of town cats. We selected a deserted rural school yard as a suitable place. There were sheltering trees nearby, an open meadow alongside, and several small ponds in the vicinity to supply water. Insects and ripening wild fruits were plentiful, and we knew that Bright-eyes would soon locate this food.

He accepted a final feeding from our hands, then bravely launched aloft and flew off. We left him perched on a Saskatoon bush, busily looking around in a delighted survey of his surroundings. We walked swiftly away from our beloved Bright-eyes, and for a while none of us talked much. It seemed such a large world, for such a small bird.

Try to stay alive!

WITH the onset of harvesting operations, safety workers throughout the West are urging farm families to take special precautions to avert harvest accidents.

In Saskatchewan last year during the August - October period, 13 persons were killed in harvest accidents involving swathers, combines, threshing machines, grain augers and hay balers. In addition, many others suffered temporary and permanent injuries.

Safe farm practices are essential if a similar toll of Saskatchewan farm folk is to be avoided this year, it was emphasized. Haste and neglect are most often the cause of farm accidents.

An analysis of last year's harvest fatalities prepared by the Division of Health Education in connection with the Department of Public Health's Farm and Home Safety Program revealed that seven members of farm families were killed in combine accidents alone. Of these, four died when they were crushed by falling combine tables and two caught legs in combine feeders. One died when he was hit by a combine wheel.

One farmer was killed when he was caught in a swather blade and one fell into a threshing machine. Two persons died from fatal injuries when caught in grain augers and two were victims of accidents with balers.

When operating a harvesting machine, special care should be taken to see that everyone is clear of the cutting blade when starting up. The same applies when grain trucks are being backed up to the outfit.

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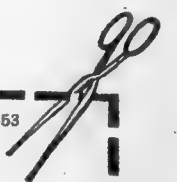
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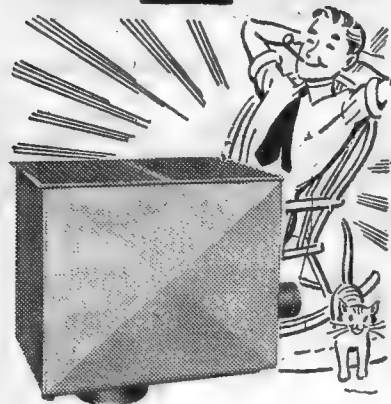
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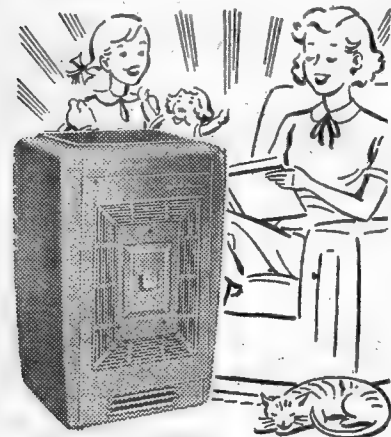
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Photo by Richard Harrington.

It's time to start thinking about Dutch bulbs

By H. F. HARP

OUR short summer season is rapidly coming to a close and wise gardeners will be turning their thoughts to potted bulbs for winter flowering.

Time and money are often wastefully expended in purchasing and planting Dutch bulbs. Failures are due in almost every instance to a lack of understanding of their cultural requirements rather than poor quality bulbs.

Dutch bulbs are so called because they are produced in Holland almost exclusively. Some Daffodils and Tulips are grown in the Pacific region of our own country but these represent only a small proportion of the many thousands planted each year to provide cut bloom and potted plants as well as color in the early spring garden.

Buy Now

Bulbs should be purchased as soon as they appear in the seed stores and no time should be lost in getting them into their flower pots. If new pots are being used they should be soaked in water over night and allowed to dry before the bulbs are planted. Old flower pots should be well scrubbed especially when Hyacinths are planted in them.

The best effects are obtained when the right sized pots are used. Single bulbs of Hyacinths may be planted in a four inch pot. A six inch pot will hold three. Daffodils should never be planted in small pots. Six inch and larger sizes are best for producing showy effects.

Tulips are best planted six in a five-inch pot.

In most prairie gardens the soil will be found suitable for

potted bulbs but the addition of a little sand and peat will be beneficial.

The soil is passed through a 1/4-inch sieve, the rough portions are used in the bottom of the pot to ensure good drainage. Sifted soil is then placed to a depth to half fill the pot. The bulbs are spaced evenly on the soil but not pressed down or they will heave when roots form. Daffodils and Narcissus should have the tips of the bulbs just above the soil allowing room to permit proper watering. Hyacinths and Tulips should be completely covered to a depth of half an inch or so.

The florist shops have special bulb growing fibre for sale and those who use fancy bowls will find this material satisfactory. Greater care is needed when applying water to these containers. Saturation will cause rotting while dryness will result in blind growth.

Charming effects may be obtained by using colorful bulb pans choosing harmonizing or sharply contrasting shades.

Water Culture

Narcissi of various types may be grown in containers of water and were often seen flourishing under these conditions in days gone by but nowadays soil culture is preferred.

Cellar Storage

After the potting has been done the bulbs should be taken to a cool basement and thoroughly soaked with water. A weekly inspection should be made and additional supplies of water given as required. The soil must be kept in a moist condition, not too wet or too dry. Many failures with bulbs are at-

tributable to neglect while in storage and also to bringing the pots up to light and higher temperatures before they are well-rooted. A period of six to ten weeks is required in basement storage. Early planted bulbs will be found to take a little longer than the same varieties planted later.

Regardless of planting time no attempt should be made to force potted bulbs until the pots are well filled with roots and the tops have grown an inch or two. When ready for moving upstairs they should first be placed in a cool window so as to gradually harden the tender shoots. More water will be needed as the plants develop, and when the flower buds appear a daily soaking will not be too much.

The problem of what to do with these bulbs after they have done blooming is puzzling to many. In prairie gardens the daffodil is not hardy neither are the narcissus or Hyacinths so they had best be discarded. Tulips can be carefully dried off and planted outdoors in September. When the tulip blooms are faded they are cut off, taking care not to destroy any foliage as this is required to build up the new bulbs. The pots will still need to be watered until there are signs of the foliage turning yellow. When this occurs the water is gradually withheld and finally the foliage dies down completely.

The pots are stored in the basement until they are replanted outdoors in September.

A good plan is to line out these bulbs in the vegetable garden where they are allowed to remain for a year to recover from the weakening effects of forcing.

The snowdrop, true crocus, scillas, Grape-Hyacinth are sometimes grown in pans and forced but they are all impatient of warm rooms and there are more failures with these than the Daffodils and Tulips. Scillas and Grape Hyacinths are perfectly hardy and should be planted outdoors in September. Tall Daffodils may be supported by placing slender willow sticks around the edge of the pot four or five willows will give ample

support. The heavy spikes of Hyacinths are best supported



"Maybe we should take off tomorrow and do some work on our farms."

by thrusting a length of No. 9 wire down through the half developed spike close to the main stem and penetrating the bulb.

Freesias — Those who know this charming, sweetly scented winter flowering bulb often persevere with it and fairly good pots of Freesias have been grown in dwelling houses. Plant in early September, placing 6 bulbs in a five-inch pot. No basement storage is needed. Full sunlight is required in the coolest possible room. Bulbs of Freesias are of no further use once they have flowered, at least they had best be forgotten about as they require considerable attention to build them up to bloom again next year.

Seasonable Hints

Gladioli — Be sure the diseased bulbs of Gladioli are carefully dug out and burned before the harvest of the bulbs commences. Towards the end of the month and not later than the first week of October. All the Glads had best be lifted. Wait for a bright, sunny day so that the bulbs will have a better chance to dry. Cut off the tops an inch or so above the bulb. Gather up all weeds and tops when dry and burn them, or disease organisms will be spread. In many parts of the prairie region the summer rains have been plentiful and welcome but they have also provided conditions conducive to the rapid spread of Fusarium or Yellows, Neck-Rot and other diseases. Extra care should be taken this year in cleaning up every trace of foliage or more trouble can be looked for next year.

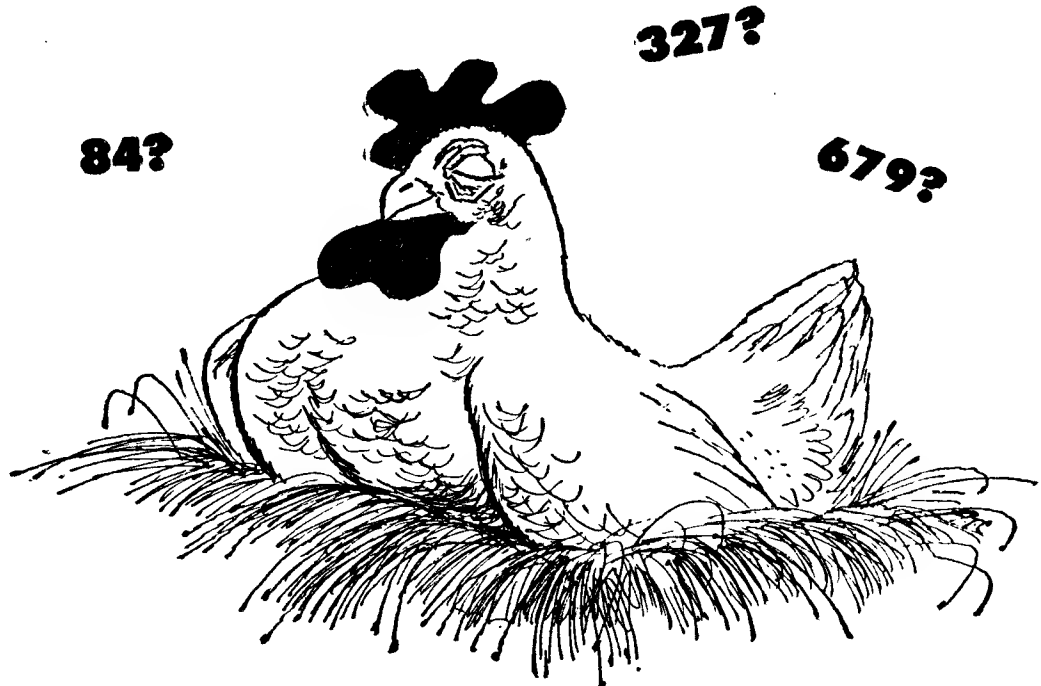
Dahlias — Cut down the Dahlias as soon as frost has blackened the foliage. The roots are dug a few days later taking care not to damage the rather brittle 'neck' portion. Basement storage which has been satisfactory for potatoes will be found suitable for Dahlias.

Tuberous Begonias — These choice plants will not stand frost so they are best lifted when danger of frost threatens. Where these have been used in window boxes they can be moved to a closed in verandah where they will continue to bloom for a while longer.

Cannas — are cut down when the first killing frost comes. The roots are then dug and stored in a cool basement. Peat or sand will be found satisfactory for use as storage material.

Lawns — Mowing will be less frequent during the month of September. The aim should be to have a heavy growth of grass by the time the severe frosts come in October.

Leaves and garden refuse should be raked off before snow falls thereby lessening the danger of 'snow mould' damage next spring.



How many products do we get from crude oil?

From eggs, a hen can expect just one product—chicks. But from crude oil, Imperial refines 679 different products, ranging from weed killers to heavy asphalts. And that is not all—crude oil also supplies petroleum gases and other raw materials for plastics and synthetic rubber.

Oil plays a large and growing part in our everyday living. How many of these questions about it can you answer?

Oil supplies are vital to defence. The gasoline required to move one armoured division 100 miles would run your car for

10 years? 95 years? 350 years?

The average family car could be operated for 350 years on the gasoline needed to move an armoured division 100 miles.

The average weekly pay cheque of Canadians in 1939 would buy 84 gallons of gasoline. How many gallons will today's cheque buy

79? 135? 93?

Even though gasoline road taxes are higher in all provinces, today's average pay cheque will buy 135 gallons.

Scientists believe oil was formed from the remains of tiny sea creatures which lived millions of years ago. Would you say oil is found in

rock? pools? swamps?

Oil is usually found far underground in the tiny pores of rock such as limestone or sandstone. The word petroleum is derived from the Latin "petra" and "oleum"—rock oil.

How much will the oil industry spend each week this year to find and develop oil fields in western Canada

\$2¼ millions? \$6 millions?
\$12 millions?

The industry is expected to spend \$300 millions on exploration and development this year—about \$6 millions a week.

It takes many millions of dollars in plant and equipment to provide high-quality oil products when and where you need them. How much does this amount to per Imperial employee

\$3,856? \$16,597? \$30,715?

Imperial's investment in plant and equipment is \$30,715 for each of its 13,500 employees, and it is still rising.

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... a critical year

IN the past four years about 4,500,000,000 bushels of all grains was produced in the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. About 2,000,000,000 bushels of that total was wheat.

The Canadian West, in all its history, has never enjoyed such bountiful production. The main reason therefore was favorable weather as acreages under grains have not been increased to any great extent.

While export sales have been at record levels the huge production has resulted in surpluses backing up in country elevators. Marketing of the surplus may take some time.

The one hopeful feature lies in the fact that centralized selling through the Wheat Board provides a measure of protection against calamitous price slumps.

The Canadian Wheat Board was organized in 1935 at the urgency of the Wheat Pools and virtually every other farm organization in western Canada. This year it has a tremendous task ahead of it.

The welfare of the farm people of the West and the whole of Canada depends to a large extent on the success of the Board's efforts in disposing of the surplus of this year's crop at prices which will give a fair return to the producers.

In the meantime farmers should arrange for farm storage.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

"Has Europe a future without any faith?"

By FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.), B.D.

MY wife and I were having dinner on a train from Venice to Paris. A gracious Italian lady was seated at the same table. We began to discuss Europe. The Italian lady was pessimistic regarding the future. "Europe has no future," she said, "because Europe has no faith."

She could demonstrate the truth of her statement. In her own country, Italy, Communism is powerful and may yet capture control of the government. Fascism is growing again. There is despair in the hearts of many people. France is desperately confused. She does not see the way out from the spiral of a rising cost of living, increased social benefits, increased wages, but comparatively little increase in production and trade. Holland has not recovered from her floods and bemoans the loss of her colonies. Western Germany is a miracle of economic recovery, but all visitors comment on the fact that not one young person in a dozen has a real faith.

New Vision

In Britain the Coronation seemed to bring a resurgence of faith. The service in the Abbey was an overwhelming spiritual experience. One wondered what Malik thought as the orb with the cross on its top to depict the lordship of Christ over all the world was given to the Queen? Certainly no one could listen to that mighty service of praise and witness the spiritual symbolism throughout the service and not be lifted into new visions and a mood of exaltation. Nevertheless there has not been a return to religious faith. There has always been a mystical faith in the country itself, a belief that "there'll always be an England". But is that good enough?

Yugoslavia has something the same sort of faith. Yugoslavians deeply believe in the destiny of their country. They are justly proud of the industrial development since the war. One has to remember the enormous devastation of their country, the systematic destruction of industries, cultural institutions, and schools. Only thirteen per cent of their schools were undamaged after the war. Yet today they have compulsory education up to university age. They have grappled with adult illiteracy. They publish thirty million books annually.

Exports have increased. The production of steel and iron has doubled over 1939 figures. More, over they have a right to be proud of the unity their country has achieved. Here are historic enemies bound in one community. The Yugoslavian republic is composed of six republics, five

countries, with three major languages and two alphabets. Undeniably, however, there is a sense of unity and a belief in their common destiny.

Is this faith in country enough? For in Yugoslavia it is not possible to belong to the Party and also be a religious person, that is, to believe in God. Hitler tried to build a Godless system of government. It failed as always such attempts have failed. As the Russian government must fail finally.

Cause of Failure

It is profoundly true that "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it". The ancient Biblical story of the Tower of Babel is a parable of that inexorable truth. All through the Bible the lesson is there for all of us to read. When Israel deserted God, Israel failed. When Israel was faithful to God, Israel became great. A newspaper editor once a year used to print the eighth chapter of Deuteronomy on the editorial page. Israel is constantly warned to beware lest in the days of prosperity "thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, and thou say in thine heart, 'My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth.' But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth". Then there is the ominous warning, "It shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish."

The saddest fact about this age is not, however, that people have false gods, but that they have no gods at all. They bow down to nothing. They are materialists. If their hearts are filled with any passion, it is a passion for material goods, for sensual enjoyment. When they speak of a higher standard of living they mean a higher material standard. There probably never was a time in history when so many people were materialists, believing in no God. Secularism is the great problem of our age.

History is strewn with the failures of godless cultures. The French Revolution was humanitarian in its ideals, but what a disillusion followed.

The great creators have been men of faith, men who believed they were God's right arm. They had a coherent view of the world and possessed a power greater than themselves. We have few such men today. It is heartening, however, to hear a man like Eisenhower say, "There is a need we all have in

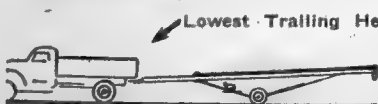
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these days and times for some help which comes from outside ourselves". We can be deeply grateful that the leader of the United States is a man of powerful religious convictions.

But have we enough such men? Throughout Europe there is a sickening vacuum, a bitter despairing cynicism. War, slavery, tyranny, and poverty seem their inevitable destiny. You can't build anything on that spirit. John Buchan tells us in "Memory Hold The Door" that this belief and character were shaped in his home, but how few homes today attempt to shape Christian character and Christian faith in the children. At the end of the last century President Tucker of Dartmouth addressed his students with the words, "Christianity is in the blood of the races now in power." Just imagine saying that today!

Only forty years ago the Student Volunteer Movement took as its slogan, "The Evangelization of the World in This Generation". Imagine such a slogan today when we see missions driven out from behind the Iron Curtain in China and Russia. Missionaries will probably be driven out of India too one of these days soon. Some missionaries believe in five years they will have to get out of India.

Long View

I believe in the future because I believe in God. There will be war and wars. There will be much suffering and frightful struggle and pain. But we must

take long views in history. Sir James Jeans says that if we took a postage stamp and stuck it on a penny, then let the thickness of the penny represent the time man has existed in an uncivilized state and the thickness of the stamp the time he has been civilized, then go on sticking postage stamps until you had a pile the height of Mont Blanc, you would get some idea of the future stretching before us. He says we are living at the very beginning of time and are strugg-

ling through jungles of ignorance, error and superstition to discover truth.

I believe in God's power and God's love. He hasn't given us such great visions of the future only to destroy us. Faith will return to earth again. The great creative process moves on to the Kingdom of God.

Meanwhile we "see not all things put under Him, but we see Jesus."

Meditations at twilight

By A. L. MARKS

THE tractor had backed up while Petey, Brucie's little dog was sleeping in its shade.

Brucie's big brother hadn't noticed Petey before he climbed up and started the machine, and all he heard was the beginning of a startled yelp when the tractor started back.

He didn't even feel the machine lift when the heavy wheel crushed Petey's head.

Brucie was inconsolable. He had once been very, very sick. So sick that he wasn't interested in living, though he always felt grateful that Mom and the others were so kind and understanding toward him.

But this was something new. He was lonely. He and Petey had shared their lives in living, loving, understanding companionship, which not only compensated for his occasional disappointments, but also took away their bitterness.

Now Petey was gone, what made life really meaningful for him was gone. And no one could help him.

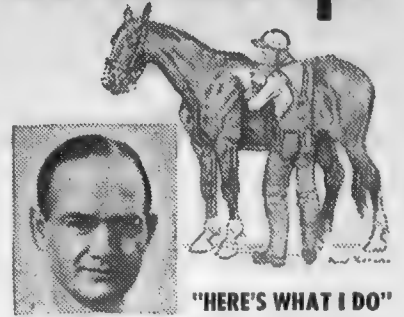
That is, no one could until that wonderful day, after he had found a little, homely mongrel puppy, with a broken leg, lying by the roadside as he came home from the post office, and with the puppy in his arms, and a smile of happiness on his face, Mom told him he could keep it.

He had found something he needed, and that needed him, with whom he could share the tender intimacies of his life, and he was happy.

Are you lonely?

Each of us is, Brucie, you know. Yes, and each of us is also the needy mongrel puppy.

Horse laid up?



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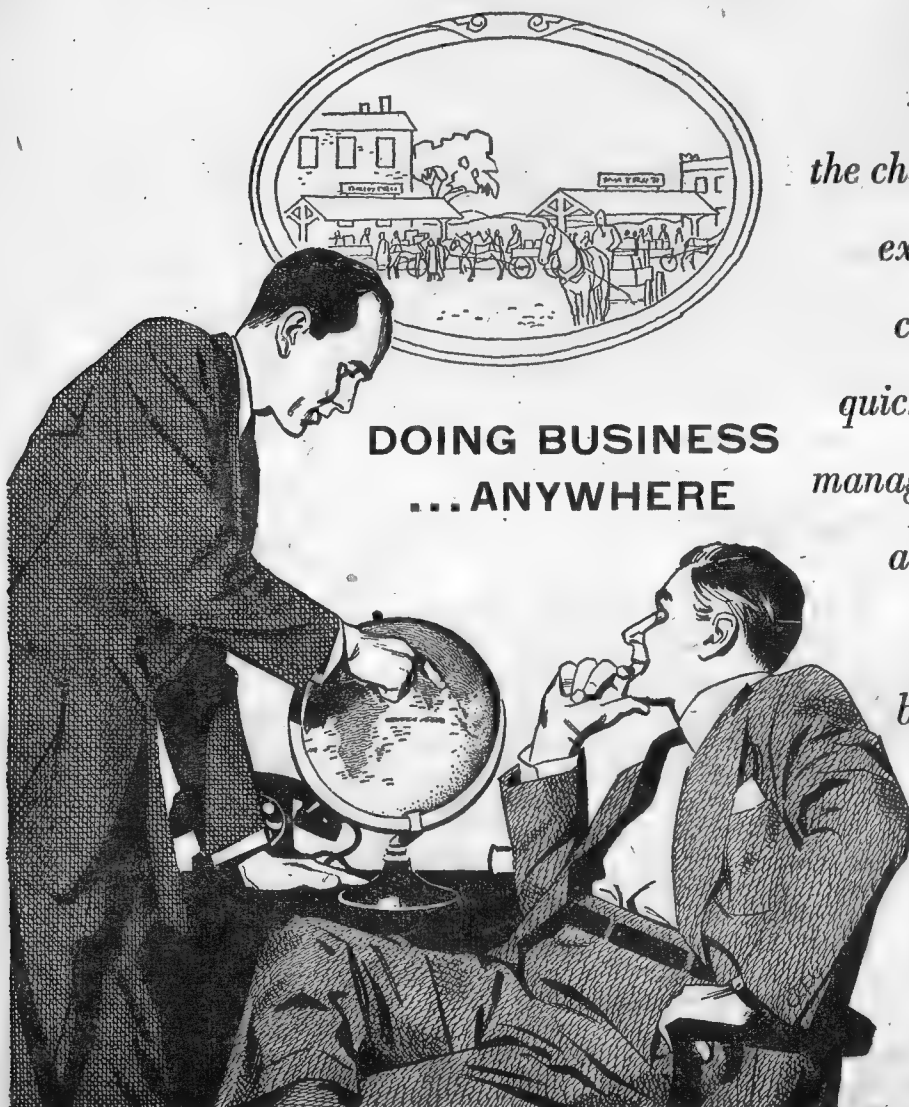
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LIFE was simple 35 years ago, when a fellow could sit on the plow all day with a good furrow horse to guide the outfit. If the lead team got tired or lazy you could catch a handful of fresh soil from the top of the mouldboard, squeeze it into a ball and use it as a "persuader". When the soil was too dry to make a ball that would carry beyond the ears of the wheel team, it was just about too dry for plowing. You could keep going for a few days by carrying small stones in the tool box, but there came a time when plow shares had to be changed too often, the horses sweat too much, and the plow threw you too high when you hit a rock. A person knew the feel of the soil in those days!

Riding a disc harrow over ground that is hard and dry is like writing on a blackboard with a piece of gritty chalk. There wasn't much to divert attention when the scene in front was mostly hidden by rumps of a 4-horse team. But the tractor operator can pull a dull cultivator through ground as hard as bricks with only his conscience and the fuel oil bill to bother him.

May be life wasn't just as simple as it sounds, and the young farmer of today would get quite a surprise if he had to do the things his grandfather did. Farming took a lot of "know how" in those days too; but everything was down to earth and the man who called himself a "dirt farmer" was thinking of a "green thumb" and not of greasy fingers.

Power farming poses its own peculiar problems. How big should the tractor be? Should it be diesel, gasoline or propane?

What size and kinds of implements will match the power and fit the fields? How much money or credit will be left for hydraulic fittings? All of these and other things to think about before you plan the job of main-

Here's an old acquaintance that should not be forgot

By JOSEPH PAUL

tenance with its complicated list of special lubricants, conditioners and equipment.

The glamour and clamour of advertising by press and radio make a new design, "fresh from the drafting board" of an eastern tractor plant, more fascinating than an old patch of Canada thistle, freshly discovered by the weed inspector, along the back road.

In 1920 the expert horseman was often so engrossed with the

Old-Fashioned Problems

training and care of his team, he had little attention to give to the other details of farming. In 1953 the good mechanic has an even greater temptation to lose himself in, the realm of power and mechanical wonders.

The tractor seat keeps the operator out of reach of the soil by several feet and the maze of mechanization can put him out of touch with the soil by a whole generation.

The ancient Romans were without the gadgets of modern science to absorb their attention; but evidently the social system of the day offered other distractions to the landed gentry. Columella, writing in the first century A.D., blamed these distractions for the failure of Roman agriculture when he said: "No one gifted with common sense will permit himself to be persuaded that our earth has grown old as man grows old. The sterility of our fields is to be imputed to our doings, because we hand over the cultivation of them to the unreasoning management of unskilled slaves."

The modern trend places too much importance on tools and too little on craftsmanship. Good devices are used to cover up poor practice. Reserve power is used to overcome the resistance of hard, dry soil. A scanty trash cover is

Good Machines Badly Used

expected to hold the soil in place regardless of the abuse it has received from tillage delayed too long. Artificial fertilizers are expected to make up the deficiencies of poor tilth. A heavy job of packing is used to solve the difficulty of seed-bed tillage that was too late and too deep. Listers may be used to save the land of the stubble burning speculator. Crop rotation is sidestepped by artificial protection of the single crop. Feed supplements, antibiotics, serums, and quarantines are used to insure the success of confined housing of dairy herds, poultry, and swine, thus driving home another wedge which will divorce livestock from fields and farmyards.

In spite of all these trends there are still some "Master Farmers" who

They Show The Way

are well worthy of the name. They are the men who temper American "Know How" with a mixture of Asiatic "Know Where". They see past the fancy frills of their times whether they be the hydraulic lifts of today or the rolling colters and jointers of 50 years ago.

The principles of good tillage are the same today as they were at any other time. The effects of crop sequence have not changed with the passing of years. The complicated chemistry of organic matter decaying in the soil is just the same as it was before the days of Liebig. To fit these things to the soil and climate of the section, township, range, and meridian that describe your farm, that is the art of farming. It is an art which cannot long be entrusted "to the unreasoning management of unskilled slaves," whether they be the slaves of Columella's time or the mechanical and chemical jinn of 1953.

Surely the challenge which offers the greatest field of opportunity to the younger generation of farmers today is to renew an old acquaintance, — get in touch with the soil.

Rimrock Ranch

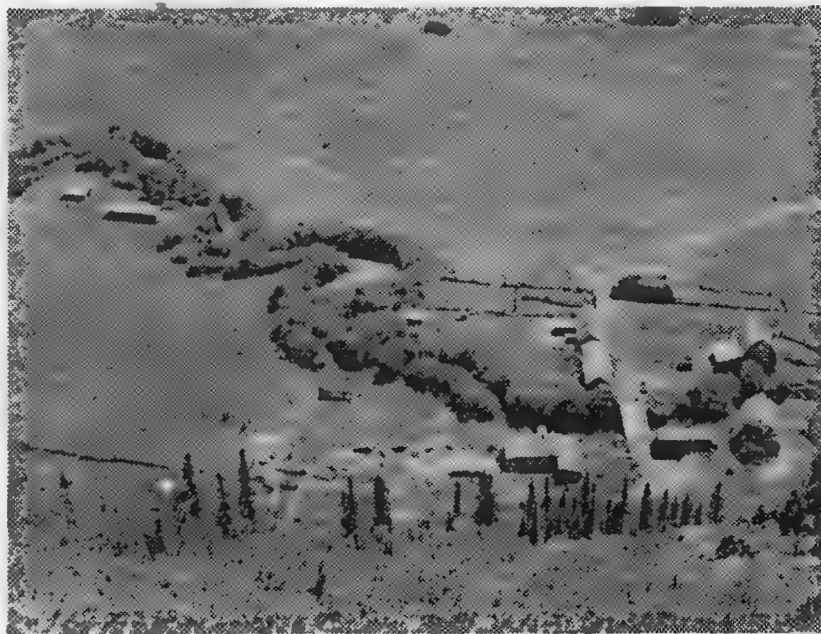


Photo by Richard Harrington.

THE Ottawa publication on strawberry growing in Canada has illustrations in color of the leaves of strawberry plants suffering from the three most common deficiencies in soil fertility, nitrogen deficiency, phosphorus deficiency, and potash deficiency. These illustrations are meant to be a guide to the strawberry grower, but there is no reason why they should not be used by the general farmer as indication of the needs of the various fields of his farm.

The color deficiency of nitrogen is yellow or pale green. However, I know from experience of many years in strawberry growing that plants will make a favorable response to the application of nitrogenous fertilizers even though the defi-

Strawberry plants are good soil indicators

By PERCY H. WRIGHT

ciency is not great enough to show the characteristic effect on the leaves. My soil, I know, needs nitrogen even though the strawberry "indicators" do not show it.

The colors of the phosphorus and potash deficiencies are quite similar, a sort of bronzing, and one would have to take the illustrated page out into the field with him in order to make an exact diagnosis. These deficiencies appear in the fall months most particularly, but if the deficiency is pronounced

enough they appear even in mid-summer. I know of a neighbor's field to which applications of barnyard manure are made yearly and heavily, and growth thus forced, which shows a great deal of the characteristic deficiency of phosphorus even in July. My own strawberry beds, on a similar soil, receive phosphoric fertilizer with nitrogen supplement (11-48-0), and in them the phosphate symptoms do not appear until September. In view of the quickness with which phosphorus is "locked up"

by the other chemicals of the soil, it would seem that a small but frequent application of phosphorus, on soils which show phosphorus deficiency, would be more profitable than larger and less frequent applications.

By the way, I have never yet seen a field of strawberries, in any part of Saskatchewan, which did not in some measure show the signs of phosphorus deficiency. Thus the diagnosis which the strawberry-method gives agrees, for the prairie soil in general, with the diagnosis which the soil experts make by analysis, namely, that our soils are likely to be more deficient in phosphorus than in any other of the major elements of soil fertility.

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FOUR GREAT VALVE-IN-HEAD ENGINES — give you greater power per gallon, lower cost per load. **HIGH EFFICIENCY COMBUSTION** — squeezes all available power from fuel. **DIAPHRAGM SPRING CLUTCH** — for easy-action engagement. **SYNCHRO-MESH TRANSMISSION** — for fast, smooth shifting. **HYPOID REAR AXLE** — for dependability and long life. **TORQUE-ACTION BRAKES** — on light-duty and medium-duty models. **TWIN-ACTION REAR BRAKES** — on heavy-duty models. **DUAL-SHOE PARKING BRAKE** — for greater holding ability on heavy-duty models. **CAB SEAT WITH DOUBLE SPRINGS** — for complete riding comfort. **VENTILANES** — for improved cab ventilation. **WIDE-BASE RIMS** — for increased tire mileage. **BALL-GEAR STEERING** — for easier handling. **BATTLESHIP CAB CONSTRUCTION** — double-walled, all-steel unit of great strength and durability. **ADVANCE-DESIGN STYLING** — for increased comfort and modern appearance.



A GENERAL MOTORS VALUE

Farmers, like all truck users, favor Chevrolet trucks. It stands to reason Chevrolet trucks must offer more of the things a farmer requires in a truck.

When you stop to think about it, the best proof of outstanding value in *any* product is continued public preference. For when folks discover a "good thing" the word travels fast, and sales go up and stay up.

That's the way it is with Chevrolet trucks. Year after year Chevrolet trucks outsell all other makes. And they're the top selling trucks in Canada today — on farms, as everywhere else!

This is a mighty important fact to consider before you buy your next truck. You'll also want to consider that, while Chevrolet trucks give you more features you want, their price is unmatched for value.

Whether your farm needs demand a big or small truck, you'll find there's "more truck" in a Chevrolet. Come in and *talk* it over with us.

MORE PEOPLE BUY CHEVROLET TRUCKS THAN ANY OTHER MAKE

GRANDFATHER could tell such interesting stories! There was nothing I liked better when I was a youngster, than to sit on the arm of the old rocker, as Grandfather rocked, and told me tales of his life when he was a young lad.

Grandfather lived in Vermont when he was a boy, and the pioneer spirit must have burned pretty bright even in his small soul, for the tales he recited were exciting and different from anything that I had ever heard before.

One tale of such ingenuity was retold again and again, as it was my favorite story.

In Grandfather's village lived a minister of great eloquence. In every sermon he preached, he implored, with great fire and spirit, for the Lord to "come right down through the roof of the church, and sit with the congregation." Then in a burst of generosity, he would add, "And I'll pay for the shingles!" Then he would pause for a silent moment, and cast his eyes expectantly upwards, while the congregation held it's breath in wonder.

One evening during a particularly fiery sermon, Grandfather and a pal, Reuben, who I might add, possessed every bad instinct that Grandfather owned, and some that Grandfather didn't, climbed silently up the old apple tree, that grew by the church. In their arms they each carried a large brick. From the branches of the tree they swung easily to the church roof, and there they waited for the highlight of the sermon that they knew would come. They could hear the minister working himself up to fever pitch. Then came the invitation.

"Come right through our roof Lord. I'll pay for the shingles!"

It was in the silence that followed that the two scamps dropped their bricks down the chimney, and they rumbled and grumbled all the way to the furnace in the church basement. Above the clatter could be heard a few faint screams from the ladies, and a few loud amens from their hardier better halves.

The two boys scrambled down the gnarled apple tree, and peered delightedly through the church window. A scene of complete quiet met their mischievous eyes. Every member of the congregation sat white and staring, while the minister, alarm on his face, gazed upward. Silently the boys hurried away from their window view, chuckling over the joke they had played.

Town Miser

In the olden days there was often a man, who through dint of hard work and shrewdness owned half the town. At least Grandfather often mentioned such a man. "Old miserly Grebb," he called him. Grebb listed among his many possessions, a much prized wine cellar. Here, he placed in casks for

What's radio got to compare to Grandfather's tall tales

By ALICE R. THURBER, Blackie, Alberta

safe keeping, all his precious home brew.

One hot afternoon Grandfather and his pal were catching bullfrogs down by the creek that flowed by the old wine cellar. "Sure was hot," Grandfather recalled, wiping his brow. "The sun beat down on our shaven heads, and even the bullfrogs were too hot and lazy to jump to safety."

Suddenly Reuben sighted some long, hollow reeds. They cut a few and sucked some of the warm creek water through the stems. Then their eyes met and held. They had both had a peachy idea. They chose the longest reeds they could find, and cautiously made their way to the cellar. They entered through a low window that had a latch on the outside frame. From the room above came the sound of deep masculine voices and much rumbling laughter.

It was cool and damp in the old cellar. The boys selected a likely looking cask, and removed the top plug. Then they stretched out on a nearby barrel, inserted their long reeds into the opened cask, and began sipping the cool, sweet wine.

It wasn't long before they were giggling and hic-cupping. Then heavy steps sounded on the stairway, and the boys dropped their straws in alarm, as they scrambled to the window.

But, alas, the window had locked as they had entered, and they were trapped! Old man Grebb advanced menacingly towards them.

"Steal my wine, will ye?" he thundered, as he caught each culprit by the shoulders. "I'll give ye a hiding ye'll remember to your dying day." And he did. I always noticed that when Grandfather recited this part of the tale, he always unconsciously rubbed his back, and a small sigh would escape his lips, as if the scars of the walloping still lingered over the years.

Another time, Grandfather alone, (Reuben must have been out of town) sprinkled pepper on a red hot stove in Grebb's department store, then left quickly as loud sneezes from Grebb and his customers filled the air.

Hallowe'en was Grandfather's and Reuben's special night to howl. They had a wonderful time with a small contraption they called a tic-tac-toe. This ingenious device was a small spool, with many notches on one end, and when the spool was held tightly against a window and pulled, startling, eerie noise was the result.

One Hallowe'en night, Grandfather, with his tic-tac-toe, hid behind a bush near a neighbor's window. This neighbor had a beautiful daughter who was being wooed by a very shy young

man. It seemed that he would never get enough courage to tell his sweetheart that he loved her.

Grandfather waited until the bashful swain and his girl were seated comfortably, (one at each end of the sofa, as was the custom in those times,) then Grandfather held the spool firmly against the window and pulled the string. An inhuman noise rent the air, and the girl promptly fainted. (Any girl worth her salt always fainted in those days, Grandfather said.)

The young man immediately clasped the girl in his arms, as he implored her to look at him, and repeated over and over, that he loved her, while Grandfather chuckled outside the window.

It was not long after this, that the young lady announced her betrothal, and Grandfather always took the credit for speeding up that particular courtship.

Meat for health

Meat is our most important source of high quality protein which is needed for growth, repair of body tissue and building resistance to disease. The superiority of meat protein is explained by the wide variety of essential amino acids it contains.

One of the great secrets in preparing meats for the table is to cook at low temperatures. High temperature cooking means lower palatability and higher cooking loss.

kets are of beef breeding; many, more especially in Eastern Canada, are of dairy breeding, but they are sold, nevertheless, for meat purposes and are factors in the meat trade.

The importance of cattle and calves to the national economy as well as to the nutrition of the people is sometimes overlooked. In addition to the farms and ranches, in all provinces producing cattle for meat purposes, the marketing, processing, transportation and retailing of cattle and beef, create work and salaries for thousands of Canadians. Employees in meat packing and processing in Canada number about 25,000 to say nothing of the thousands who draw part or all of their wage income from work in other phases of marketing and distribution of meat products and in leather manufacture.

In the four western provinces, notwithstanding the big business of wheat and cereal production, 33 per cent of the cash farm income in that year of 1951 came from the sale of livestock and dairy products; the sale of cattle and calves brought in just over 16 per cent of the total farm return in the western area, while pigs accounted for about seven and one-half per cent of the total and dairy products, slightly over six per cent.

Beef is big business in Canada today

APPROXIMATELY half of Canada's farm cash income in 1951 came from livestock and dairy products. The largest single item on that list of livestock and dairy products was "cattle and calves" which accounted for a return of nearly half a billion dollars, or close to 18 per cent of the total cash income for farms in the year. The return from pigs came next and then dairy products.

Quite obviously not all the market animals classified as "cattle and calves" on our mar-

Study in Contentment

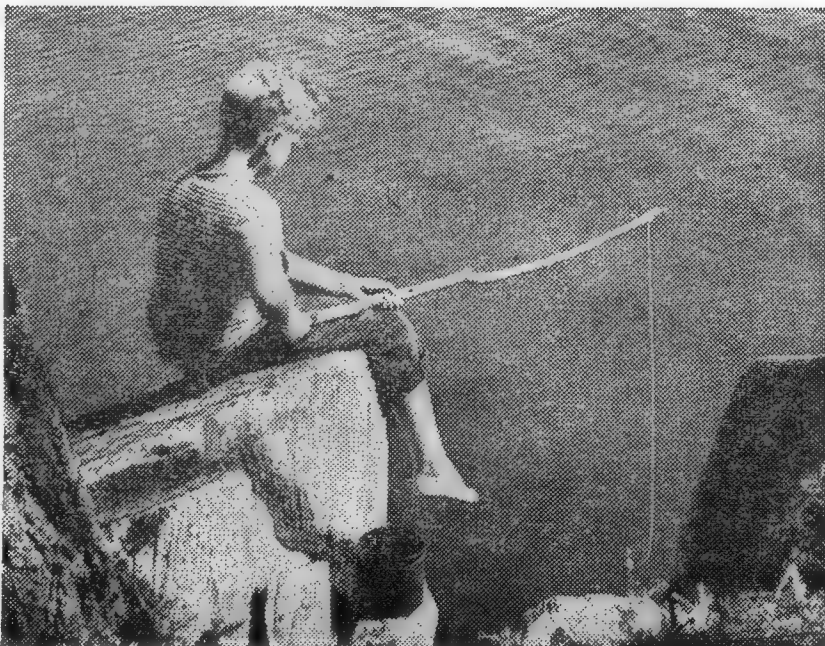


Photo by Don Smith

Completely NEW "DRIVER ENGINEERED" MERCURY TRUCKS



DOLLAR-SAVERS FOR FARM TRUCKING!

"DRIVER-ENGINEERED" CABS

Standard and Custom Cabs are "built-around-the-driver"—offer a riding treat after hard chores in the field. New "three-man" seats are something special. Wider, of course, with non-sag seat springs that are long lasting and comfortable. Adjustable seat cushion and separate adjustable back rest make every driver feel "at home". Seats have shock snubber to help level-out the ride. New curved one-piece windshield, bigger side windows plus a 4-ft. rear window assure all round visibility. Every "Driver-engineered" Cab feature helps make the driver's job easier, safer and more efficient.



5 GREAT ENGINES
V-8
DEFINITELY!

Easy to handle Mercury Trucks save work and time —are reliable dollar-savers for farm hauling.

Series M-350 is a standout for all-purpose farm hauling—suitable for large bulky loads. Ideal for many special purpose bodies including a multi-duty Platform Stake. It provides 60 sq. feet of platform. Choice of two transmissions—3-speed heavy duty Synchro-silent transmission with steering column gearshift, or some farm operators prefer the 4-speed Synchro-silent transmission with floor gearshift. Series M-350 is powered with the farmer's favourite —"World Famous" 106 Hp. Engine... V-8 definitely!

Mercury Trucks Series M-100 and Series M-250 are also popular with profit-wise farmers for light duty hauling. There's a Mercury Truck with "Loadomatic" economy to move your farm loads for less.

Here's the greatest line of Mercury Trucks ever built —8 series, 17 wheelbases, FIVE great V-8 engines from 106 Hp. to 155 Hp.—over 100 models from 4,000 to 27,000 lbs. G.V.W.



SEE YOUR **MERCURY TRUCK DEALER** ... MOVE IT WITH **MERCURY** FOR LESS!

GROWING luxuriantly in the greenhouse of the Horticulture Department at the University of British Columbia is a banana tree. It has produced fruit — good fruit. But that is no excuse to order a banana tree from the nursery and plant one in the garden.

You know without giving the matter much thought that the project would be doomed to failure. The most significant fact being that the banana tree is a tropical tree. It must have heat and warm rains to make it thrive and bear bananas.

There are a number of other crops that Canadian farmers would not waste their time growing because conditions are so far from favorable that the outcome would be destined for dismal failure. Yet there is simple evidence that effort is spent in growing crops not suited to the market or the soil and climate we have.

Early Potatoes

A number of farmers on the delta of the Fraser River have recently sworn off growing early potatoes after the severe beating they took this year on price. If they mean what they say and refrain from growing this crop, the Coast Vegetable Marketing Board will be happy because it will eliminate one of the headaches they have each spring.

This year the problem was aggravated by cool weather which held the early crop back. While the earliest potatoes from the Point Roberts district were still trying to gain a little size, the wholesale trade was importing carloads of California earlies. They had good stocks on hand when the B.C. crops started to roll onto the market. Local earlies soon replaced the imported crop because of their ease of cleaning but they continued to move to the market in such quantities that there was no place to sell them. Prices came down.

Why grow bananas? Or early potatoes?

By TOM LEACH

The lower prices enabled the Board to ship many carloads to the prairies and that eased the tension for a short time. Then the California growers started to dig their long whites. They are the long, smooth potatoes, thin skinned like the earlies but without the deep eyes which the housewife deprecates in any potato except for the first fresh earlies of the season.

Once the California whites started to appear on the grocers' counter the customers refused to glance sidewise at the B.C. earlies. It was then that my green-grocer held out a handful of B.C. grown "epicures" to me in the other hand a couple of California whites. "Can you blame the women for buying California potatoes?" he asked me.

A very quick look at the two samples was sufficient to convince me that I would follow the same easy path to prepare a dinner. The skin on the potatoes at that season was far enough advanced toward maturity to require peeling. The long white presented an easy surface for the paring knife while the early potato presented a knobby surface with deep eyes and would require needless time to dig out the recessed part of the skin.

It required very little slautering to discover that those earlies were not grown on the lighter soils of the Point Roberts district which is a recognized early potato growing area. The small particles of clay which continued to stick tightly to the skin was clear evidence that they were grown on heavier delta soils and not the light sandy warm soil of the Point.

Average Control

The new board elected last spring by the growers is again searching for an answer to the problem. There is one way for them to solve this but it means definite allotments of acreage—something they have tried to avoid. But Alex Hope, a member of the board recently told a group of potato growers that had the production of early potatoes been restricted to those who farm the light, early soils, the situation they faced with this year's early crop overlapping the California long whites, would never have occurred.

He said that the board had on hand one thousand tons of earlies to sell when the second early crop was starting to come on the market and that all of them were grown on land that should have been planted to later varieties. It was simply a case of trying to grow bananas.

This question of crop selection for soils and climates is being given much more attention by the agricultural scientists in B.C. than ever before. Farmers should soon profit

from the tests that are being conducted on forage crops, vegetables and hardy root stocks for fruit trees.

Selections of grass strains are being made from literally thousands of seedlings. They are being tested at the Experimental Farms and Illustration Stations over the province and some strains show promise of higher yields of better quality than those which are being grown at the present time.

Hybridization of certain crops such as corn has made it possible to extend the acreage of corn into areas which were not considered suitable for the crop before. But until those new strains are ready for commercial production the farmer must continue to study his market prospects and his own land and its location.

Grapes and Bulbs

A grower on Vancouver Island has found it possible to produce grapes just as sweet as those grown in California by selecting his location and using varieties which develop quickly. Another in the Okanagan built his vineyards on the fact that he could ripen grapes eight to ten days ahead of Ontario growers and get them on to the prairie market that much earlier.

The bulb growing industry of the Fraser Valley grew out of a visit to a farm near Bradner where a lone clump of Daffodils had been growing profusely without any attention. The visitors deduction was that he could produce outstanding bulbs and blooms if he gave the flowers the attention they deserved. He tried it out and it worked.

A number of growers have been working with the provincial horticulturists in trying out the production of broccoli for freezing. This crop was given scant attention by anyone except for a few market gardeners who used it as a fall crop to fill in the late season's working hours.

Working with one of the co-operatives which was interested in putting up a frozen pack of vegetables, an acreage of broccoli and brussels sprouts was planted in 1951. The plan provided the growers with an addi-

tional source of income and helped to extend the operating season for the co-operative's freezing plant. The acreage jumped from 55 acres in 1951 to 115 acres in 1952.

Because of the vast difference in climate and soils in B.C., there is ample opportunity for the person who desires to grow some specialty crop to achieve his ends. But it is one thing to select a climate and soil to grow a specific crop and a much different matter to plant the crop in whatever location a farmer happens to find himself.

Recently an official of one of the several experimental stations told me that it was his intention to concentrate the efforts of his small staff on the crops which are recognized as suitable for the district. That was encouraging. Soon the farmers nearby may have selected strains which will out-yield the ones they must work with today — something much more valuable to them as B.C. farmers than a banana.

Better current and gooseberry crops

DON'T let the grubs get your currant crop this year, advises P. D. McCalla, Supervisor of Horticulture, Alberta Department of Agriculture.

Until the arrival of DDT, currant growing in Alberta was becoming almost a thing of the past. Berries full of worms, one-half of them on the ground, was the usual disappointing result at canning time. The culprit was the currant fruit fly — an inconspicuous insect that modestly hides until the fruits are forming and then flies from berry to berry laying an egg in each. The berry continues to grow and out of the egg comes a tiny maggot which lives in comfort until shortly before harvest. The berries then fall from the bush and the maggot enters the ground, to emerge in spring as a well-formed fly.

Always in good time, the female fly sits around on the under side of a leaf near the centre of the bush for nearly two weeks before the berries are ready for her egg laying activities. This is our opportunity to stop the mischief. As soon as the flowers begin to fade, the undersides of the leaves are treated with a spray consisting of 1/3 ounce of wettable DDT in 1 gallon of water. Remember to direct the spray towards the centre of the bush and on the undersides of the leaves, Mr. McCalla advises. This is where the flies will be resting. If spraying is delayed until the flowers begin to fade, pollination by bees will have been completed, and the DDT will kill any currant fly alighting on the sprayed surface before she has a chance to damage the berries.

Gooseberry bushes should also receive this DDT treatment in the spring since they too are subject to attack by the fruit fly.

did you know?



Automatic heating for your farm home can be financed with a Farm Improvement Loan. Write for booklet or drop in and talk it over with the manager of the Royal Bank branch nearest you.

**THE ROYAL BANK
OF CANADA**



"You're supposed to be a second story man - well, lets hear the second one - this one stinks."

FIRST With POWER STEERING!



NEW



Self-Propelled

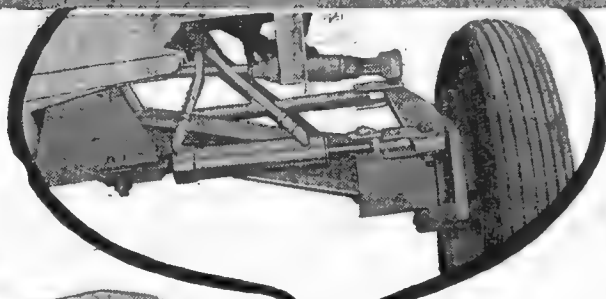
POWERflow

HARVESTOR

It's here! Now, MM offers POWERflow Power Steering on the new Self-Propelled POWERflow HARVESTOR. MM offers big-capacity harvesting with *less* work, *easier* handling, *better* performance . . . adds POWERflow steering to the long list of Minneapolis-Moline harvesting "firsts."

Now include POWERflow among such outstanding POWERflow advantages as: VARIABLE-SPEED HYDRAULIC DRIVE that permits control of ground speed from 0 to maximum mph without changing speeds of sickle, pickup or cylinder . . . FULL-WIDTH CYLINDER with 8 rasp bars and 4-section oscillating straw racks for really big capacity . . . 45-BUSHEL grain tank and Power Auger unloader that empties bin in about a minute, on-the-go or standing.

Now
with POWERflow
Steering
and POWERflow
Drive



MM—First with the
BIG-CAPACITY,
LIGHTWEIGHT
COMBINE . . .
and still out in front!

This is how MM Power Steering works

Mounted on rear drive wheels, POWERflow Steering takes its power from the ample hydraulic pump. Steering wheel activates double-acting hydraulic jacks. System has a special reserve valve for extra safe operation.

THESE BIG ADVANTAGES PUT THE SELF-PROPELLED MM HARVESTOR
IN A PRODUCTION CLASS BY ITSELF

NEW

DOUBLE ROLLER CYLINDER CHAIN DRIVE for positive cylinder driving action. Easy to adjust for change of cylinder speed.

NEW

ENGINE PERFORMANCE from higher compression ratio. Note covering hood that protects engine, reflects heat away from operator.

NEW

ROLL-BACK BRAKE relieves pressure on gears and permits easier shifting.

NEW

BRAKING RATIO for safer, surer stops.

NEW

OVER-RIDING CLUTCH assures proper operating speeds under all conditions.

NEW

STEEL-SLAT FEEDER RADDLE CONVEYOR provides proper cutting clearance and assures long-life, trouble-free use.

NEW

STRONGER FEEDER FINGERS on auger and on drum feeder are set in rubber for quiet, smooth operation.

NEW

ONE-PIECE CUTTER BAR for added strength, positive sickle and guard alignment.

PLUS

DUAL SPEED RATIO gives you lower transmission speeds when desired.

PLUS

ONE-PIECE AUGER is full header width. Rugged, adjustable!

PLUS

EASY SERVICING—EASY LUBRICATION.

MINNEAPOLIS-MOLINE

MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINNESOTA

CANADA PACKERS LIMITED

REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

The 26th year of Canada Packers closed March 25th, 1953.

Table I reveals a comparison with the previous year, of:—

1. Tonnage (pounds of product sold)
2. Dollar Sales
3. Average price per pound

TABLE I

	Tonnage	Dollar Sales	Average price per lb. of all products
Fiscal 1952	1,708,000,000 lbs.	\$390,000,000	22.8c
" 1953	1,859,000,000 lbs.	\$386,000,000	20.7c
Decline,—	Average price per pound Equivalent to	2.1c	9%

Canada Packers handles many products, and the tonnage of each in relation to total tonnage varies from year to year. Therefore this comparison of 'averages' is not an exact measure,—nevertheless it is a sufficiently accurate indication,—of the price decline.

Table II sets up for the last three years total Net Profits and, in addition,

1. Net Profit as percentage of Sales
2. Net Profit per 100 lbs. of product sold

TABLE II

	Fiscal 1953	Fiscal 1952	Fiscal 1951
Sales	\$386,000,000	\$390,000,000	\$357,000,000
Tonnage	1,859,000,000 lbs.	1,708,000,000 lbs.	1,694,000,000 lbs.
Net Profit	\$4,400,598	\$1,964,545	\$4,126,013
Net Profit as percentage of sales	1.14%	.50%	1.16%
Net Profit per 100 lbs. of product sold	23.7c	11.5c	24.4c

(On the operations of Canada Packers since the Company was organized in 1927, Net Profits have averaged,—

- 1.105% of Sales
- 16.2c per 100 lbs. of product sold.)

Table I reveals a decline in the average price of the products sold by the Company of 2.1c per lb. Not all prices declined. Indeed, most food prices registered only a slight change, and a few advanced.

The decline in the average was brought about by a severe fall in prices of live stock (and consequently of meats). Meats constitute 80 per cent of the dollar sales of Canada Packers. Within the year under review, prices of all meats declined an average of 22%. The most drastic decline was in cattle, and consequently beef, prices. A decline was not unexpected. It had been predicted for more than two years. Cattle prices had advanced to a much higher percentage of the pre-war level than was the case in respect of any other food.

During the war period prices were controlled. Meats were rationed and ceiling prices were maintained. All Canada's surplus meats were shipped to the U.K. An embargo was imposed against shipments of live stock or meats to United States. These controls continued until 1947.

Rationing was discontinued March 26, 1947.
Ceilings were abolished Oct. 22, 1947.
Embargo against shipments to U.S. of all meats other than pork products was lifted Aug. 16, 1948.

From October 1947,—(when ceilings were abolished),—cattle prices advanced, with only minor recessions, until January 1952,—a period of 4½ years.

In October 1947, the price of Good Steers at Toronto was 13½c per lb. At January 1st, 1952, they had risen to 34c,—an increase of 152%

See Graph No. 1 (Solid Line)

During the same period, prices of all foods advanced 46%

It was clear that so wide a disparity in the scale of advance as that between cattle on the one hand, and general food prices on the other, could not continue indefinitely.

The decline set in during January, 1952. Within a period of three months (January 1 to March 30, 1952) the price of Good Steers at Toronto dropped from 34c to 24½c per pound.

The chief immediate cause of this violent drop was the announcement of foot-and-mouth disease, (February 25, 1952) and the consequent embargo by United States against all Canadian live stock and meats. The story of the outbreak, and of the steps taken by the Canadian Government to cope with the disaster, was told at some length in last year's Annual Report.

During the time the embargo lasted, the Canadian Government saved live stock prices from further collapse by announcing floor prices for cattle and hogs, and undertaking to purchase at those prices the surplus over and above domestic requirements.

The disposal of the surplus so acquired involved the Government in a heavy loss; nevertheless this loss was only a fraction of that which would have ensued to live stock producers if the Government support had not been forthcoming.

It is now clear that while the U.S. embargo was the immediate cause of the violent break in cattle prices, an equal break would not, in any case, have been long delayed. For, during the period of the embargo, (February 25, 1952, to March 2, 1953) a drastic decline in cattle prices was in progress in United States. The dotted line in Graph No. 1 depicts the course of American cattle prices.

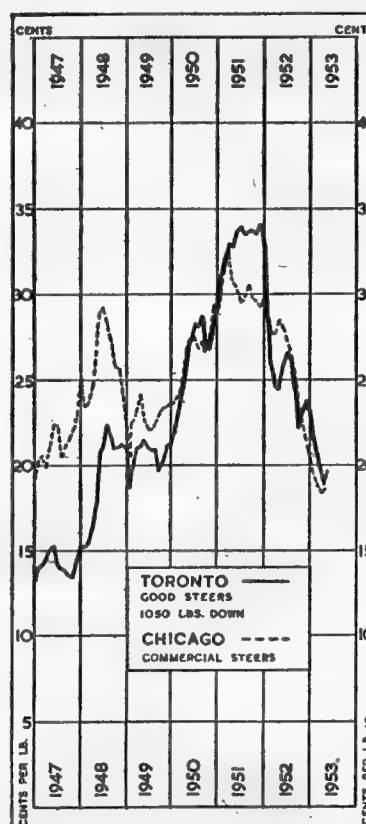
HOG PRICES

During the period 1947 to 1953 the course of Hog prices has been subject to quite different influences from those affecting Cattle.

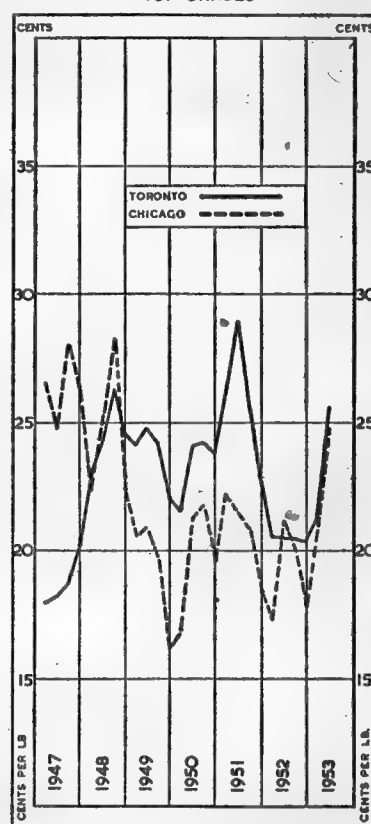
Graph No. 2 depicts Hog prices in Canada and United States from January 1947 to June 1953.

The solid line represents Canadian prices, and the dotted line, American. In United States Hogs are bought on live weight, in Canada on dressed weight. In the graph, therefore, Canadian prices are converted from dressed to live weight basis,—assuming a yield of 75%.

GRAPH No. 1
CATTLE PRICES
TORONTO AND CHICAGO



GRAPH No. 2
LIVE HOG PRICES
TORONTO AND CHICAGO
TOP GRADES



Up to and including 1950, substantial quantities of Bacon and Hams were shipped to the United Kingdom. These shipments were under contracts made between Canada Department of Agriculture and the British Ministry of Food. To secure the product for which Canada was committed, the embargo was continued which had been imposed throughout the war, against shipments of Hog products to the United States.

Space does not permit a detailed review of price fluctuations from January 1947 to December 1950. It is sufficient to say that during this entire period, requirements for U.K. Contracts plus for domestic consumption exceeded supplies, resulting in a constant upward pressure on prices.

The last contract with U.K. was completed December, 1950. It was not renewed for two reasons:—

- (1) The U.K. was short of dollars.
- (2) Canada was short of Hogs.

With the expiry of the U.K. Contract, the embargo against movement of Hog product to United States was lifted,—date January 1st, 1951. Since that date, limited quantities of Pork Meats (chiefly specialties such as Pork Loins, Tinned Hams, Canadian Backs) have gone forward to United States. Quantities have not been large. Nevertheless, these are all high priced pro-

products, and the stimulation to Canadian Hog prices has been out of proportion to the volume of the shipments.

Inspected slaughterings for the five years 1947 to 1951 inclusive were remarkably uniform. The average was approximately 4,500,000 Hogs. The steadily advancing prices of these years led to a sharp increase in production in 1952. Unfortunately, Foot-and-Mouth disease intervened (February 25th, 1952).

As already explained, the Government established a floor price,—26¢ per pound dressed,—and that price ruled without variation until the end of the year.

On September 25th, 1952, the Government announced that the support price after January 1, 1953, would be 23¢,—a reduction of 3¢ per lb. This led to unprecedented deliveries of hogs during December 1952. Both producers and packers expected that the new floor price would obtain indefinitely after January 1, 1953, just as the previous floor price had obtained from February to December 1952.

What happened took everyone by surprise. Instead of a drop from 26¢ to 23¢ per lb., the market advanced (with short recessions) to a high of 36¢ per lb. An important factor in this advance was the strong American Hog market. The chief cause however, was the drastic decline in Hog marketings.

Within the four months, March to June 1953, the situation was :

- (1) That Canada was free to export either beef or pork product to U.S., but no beef and a very limited quantity of pork product have gone forward. The reason was that both cattle and hog prices were higher in Canada than in the U.S., which means that prices in Canada were the highest in the world.

- (2) That these facts suggest a profound change is in progress in the live stock situation of Canada. Domestic consumption is advancing rapidly, due to :—

- (a) increasing population.
- (b) increasing purchasing power per capita.

It may be that the time is not far distant when over quite long periods Canada will herself consume all the meats being produced.

He would have been a bold person who would have suggested such a possibility ten, or even five, years ago.

Nevertheless, the fact remains that Canada still does produce some surplus, both of cattle and of hogs, and during the season when marketings exceed domestic demand, the surplus must move to United States.

In respect of cattle, the period of surplus must now be close at hand. The movement of cattle from Western Canada to the East and South usually sets in during July. From then until the end of November, cattle prices in Canada will be roughly those for corresponding grades in U.S., less freight and duty.

In respect of hogs, the surplus, if any, may not be felt until September or October.

J. S. McLEAN,
President.

Toronto, June 30th, 1953.

Extra copies of this report are available and, so long as they last, will be mailed to anyone requesting them. Address requests to Canada Packers Limited, Toronto 9.

THE wariness of the wild goose is known to all, but Mother Goose is a law unto herself. I remember stalking a wild Canada Goose on her nest, hoping to get a picture. She knew that someone was near, because the giant gander had been on guard and had given her ample warning of my approach. He had honked furiously and hissed and even made a slight feint of a rush toward me with his giant wings arched — wild geese fight with their wings, and the swift slap of the powerful pinions can cause serious damage. I once saw a domestic cat attack a wild Canadian gander; the slap of the wing caught the cat across the back and broke the backbone!

However, this particular gander was not so warlike. He kept a cautious distance between us and flew off after gabbling loudly to notify his mate that I was in the vicinity. Instead of the goose covering the eggs with the down feathers she had plucked from her breast to make a cosy container for the six large eggs and slipping off secretly through the willows of the river bank to join her mate, Mother Goose decided to stay on the nest.

I knew where that nest was located, and at times would catch a glimpse of the setting bird. Her black-stockinged neck was held high at first, the white cheek patch showing as she turned her head slightly to watch me. As I drew nearer, she became more wary and stretched her long neck parallel with the ground so that it would not be visible. And her gray-brown body with the darker wing coverts blended perfectly with the surroundings, so that I had to look twice at times to make sure that she had not slipped furtively off the nest and gone to join the gander.

The Stayed

But not this Mother Goose. She was a determined sort of ladybird, and in her opinion her duty was there on the nest, incubating the six pale eggs that

A tough old character is a Mother Goose

By KERRY WOOD

were soon to hatch and produce downy goslings. So as I moved cautiously close and closer, trying hard to avoid making any undue noise as I pushed through the screening willows and alders and poplar thickets, Mother Goose realized that I saw her clearly and once again her head came up alertly and she uttered a brief honk.

Out on the river, Father Goose heard her and answered loudly. Honka! Honka! Hoooonk-hoooonk-hoooonka! He seemed to be begging and pleading with her to get off that nest in a hurry and come out onto the water where it was safe. But Mother Goose replied with a single honk, while her sparkling dark eyes kept fastened on me and seemed to dare me to come any nearer.

And I didn't accept the dare, either. The camera was focused and the picture was snap-

ped, then I retreated as speedily and as quietly as I could while Father Goose called me a variety of nasty names from the river. Mother Goose said nothing more, but when I looked back at the nest, she was settled more comfortably on the feather-lined oval and seemed to have relaxed her vigilance. No doubt she was congratulating herself on having won a moral victory, frightening off this man-thing and saving her precious nest from being seen by his prying eyes.

The Protector

However, I did go back to that region many times to watch her and Father Goose and their six goslings. A more devoted family you'd never find. Mother acted as family guide, leading the group on swims across the shallows of the river with the goslings bunched behind her and Father Goose

alertly bringing up the rear. He was no longer content to honk and fly off to a safer spot. Now he was fiercely belligerent, a gallant defender of his family.

Even a vicious mink that was foraging along the shoreline one day backed off before the menacing and hissing beak of Father Goose. Another time, a Goshawk swooped close to the goslings, but again, Father Goose was on guard and gave loud notice of the hawk's presence. The goslings rushed under the shelter of the mother's flanks, while both adult birds half spread their powerful wings as they faced up at the hawk and honked and hissed. The prudent hawk thought better of molesting that brave family and flew off on other business.

So Mother Goose and her brave consort finally raised those downy goslings to maturity, and one morning when I went to pay them a visit, I had the pleasure of seeing the whole family launch aloft and fly away.

Canadian Quiz

By GEOFFREY SHAWCROSS

1. What is the approximate area of Hudson Bay?
2. When did beet sugar production start in Canada?
3. How many miles of railway track have we?
4. Which national premier was interested in Spiritualism?
5. When were family allowances first paid here?
6. When was the Alaska Highway completed?
7. Who supervises the Canadian section of it?
8. Which is our highest mountain?
9. Which part of Canada has practically the same latitude as the northern extreme of California?
10. Which gold-mining town was founded as recently as 1935?

A Bite!

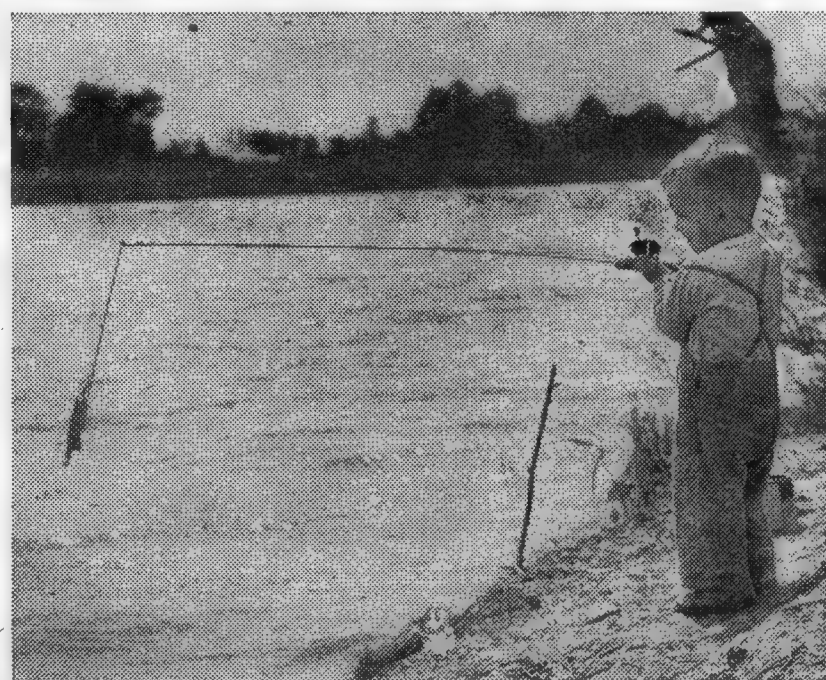
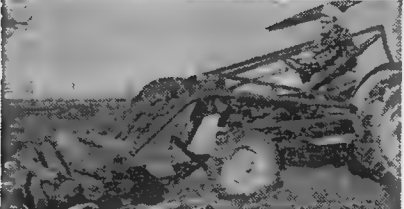


Photo by Don Smith.



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The old straw ticks were great alarm clocks

By HARRY J. BOYLE

FEATHER ticks were discarded at our home when I was a boy. Mother heard some place they were unhealthy and that literally billions of germs used to hide in among the feathers of a tick. She persuaded Father to buy some new mattresses. He was firmly convinced that germs were all a lot of nonsense and so when he came back from town that evening he had one mattress and a firm glint in his eye which warned everyone to accept the one mattress without questioning. It was placed on the spare bed.

In due time it was moved to father and mother's room and a new one was purchased for the spare bedroom. Soon another one was purchased for the spare room . . . the spare one moved to our parents' room and we were given the old one. After being used to the billowing feather tick that used to roll and toss with us on the bed . . . it was a strange sensation to climb in on top of that new straw tick.

I have never been able to figure out whether that hard straw mattress was comfortable or not. It was hard in places and soft in others. By reason of two small boys trying to burrow down in the centre of it during the cold winter spells it began to dish out at the sides and wear through at the middle. There was a round spot in the centre where the straw was all dished out and it was bulked up along the sides in a regular dyke-like sort of arrangement.

Climbing into bed you would start sleeping up on the sides

and the first thing you knew there would be a scramble of boys in the middle. The tussle and pulling and tugging of small boys had a rather bad effect on the mattress. Mother was sick at the time and our hired girl never used to bother a great deal with sweeping. I can remember quite plainly how she used to push the little pile of straw back into the corner under the bed. Needless to say that after mother recovered from her illness the hired girl was given a very short notice to pack her 'duds and git'.

Grandmother used to have the softest feather beds in the district. It was always a treat to get spending a few days at her house. Climbing into bed . . . it seemed as if you were scrambling up on top of a partly inflated balloon the way they used to billow out around you. Grandmother would come tiptoeing up the stairs softly with the lamp in her hand. I can see her yet. Edging in the door quietly she would set the lamp down on the chair and tuck the quilts in under the feather mattress. Then shoving the quilts up close around my shoulders she would stoop down and her lips would give a quick "feather-touch" kiss on my forehead.

Feather ticks were great in the winter time. They were warm and pleasant to sleep in but during the summer time it was an entirely different matter. On an evening when the weather was sultry and hot the ticks were quite apt to make you feel as if you were roasting. Every time you turned the tick seemed to conform to your shape and bury you a little

deeper in its smothering density. The feathers had a way of coming through the ticking and it was not unusual to get up in the morning with feathers clustering to your skin where you had been sweating.

Uncle Josh's daughter Milly is a school teacher. She has been living away off in the city for a long time now and more or less away from all our country customs. Last Christmas Josh was in the village one day and the station agent told him that there was a large parcel for him down at the station. Josh drove down with the sleigh and looked at the strange flat bundle. Josh always was a curious sort of fellow and so he had to peek in at the contents of the parcel.

It turned out to be a mattress . . . one of those springy, soft kind which are designed to give you your full beauty sleep. Josh was pleased beyond words and he drove away off whistling to beat the band. I didn't see him for some time but one day he came to our place and we chanced to ask him about the mattress which it developed his daughter had sent him.

"I have been getting up at five o'clock since I was a boy," he said. "Never missed one single morning until we got that new-fangled mattress. I slept in until eight o'clock the next day. Mrs. Josh took it off our bed and put it on the spare one. She says that the old straw tick is good enough for us. The truth of the matter is, the straw tick is so uncomfortable that when you wake up in the morning there's nothing to do except get up or else get a pain in your back from lying on it. When I quit farming and don't have to get up in the morning, I'm going to sleep on that fancy mattress for days and never get up at all."



ALMOST 18,000,000 miles were travelled by Canadian Pacific Railway diesel locomotives during 1952 by the 292 units that the railway has in service. When Canadian Pacific first started diesel operations in 1943 the five locomotives on the company's roster travelled 61,000 miles. During the intervening years the company has dieselized a great number of its operations.

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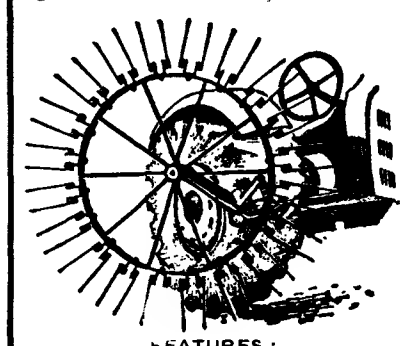
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Farmers can't ignore Parasites and their protection

Special Correspondence by
Dominion Department of Agriculture Information Service

MOST insects are attacked by parasites. Entomologists make use of this fact when a change of environment or climatic conditions brings a widespread outbreak of some insect pest. When such outbreaks occur a search is made for parasites attacking the insect in other areas on this continent, or in other countries where the insect pest is known.

When such parasites are found they are imported and tested for their ability to survive the new conditions. If successful the parasites are then multiplied and liberated in areas where the insect pest is, or threatens to become, a serious menace.

The following are typical examples of insect pests for which parasites have been successfully introduced and distributed as a means of control.

The Greenhouse Whitefly

The greenhouse whitefly has long been a serious pest on vegetable and flower crops in greenhouses in many parts of the world. In 1924 a parasite capable of destroying the whitefly was discovered in greenhouses in Ohio. Two years later it was found in a small greenhouse in England. An experiment station there studied the life history and habits of the parasite and methods of rearing and distributing them. In 1928 a supply was sent to Canada and placed in a few greenhouses. They were found to survive and attack the whitefly so plans were made to raise them and make supplies of the parasite available to greenhouse operators in Canada. Since 1937, over one million of these parasites have been distributed yearly to growers who asked for them.

Parasites have been found attacking the greenhouse whitefly on many weeds and over 20 different vegetables and flowers, but both the host insect and the parasite show definite preferences. It has been found that broad-leaf tobacco and tomato plants are the best hosts on which to rear the whitefly and the parasite for multiplication purposes. To transport the parasites, leaves infested with parasitized whiteflies are removed from the host plants and any whitefly scales not carrying the parasites are destroyed. The leaves are placed in waxed paper and then rolled in bundles to fit cardboard tubes, each of which contains from 1,000 to 5,000 parasites in the pupal stage. The tubes are wrapped with ordinary wrapping paper and shipped by parcel post. The leaves are placed by the growers at advantageous points among infested plants.

The Pea Moth

The pea moth was introduced into Canada from Europe prior to 1893. It was first reported from British Columbia in 1934, when it was already abundant at Sumas Prairie. From this time until 1945 it increased steadily and that year eighty per cent of the pea pods at Sumas Prairie were infested.

Three species of parasites attacking the pea moth were imported from England and liberated, starting in 1937. Small numbers of parasites were recovered shortly after liberation and the percentage of attack increased steadily until 1945 when 80 per cent of the pea moth larvae were parasitized.

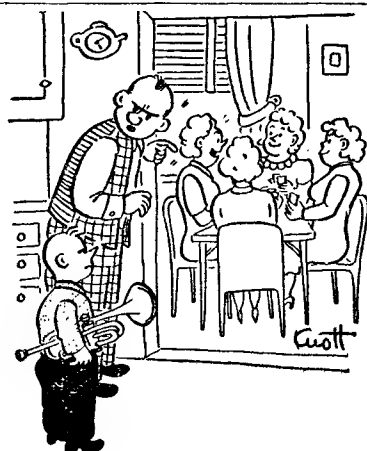
In 1946 there was a drastic reduction in the acreage of peas sown due to the severe damage by the moth in 1945. Ordinarily it would be expected that there would be a concentration of the pest on what peas were grown.

However, where the concentration of infestation from 80 per cent in 1945 to 35 per cent in 1946. In the Cloverdale area west of Sumas where no parasites had been liberated and to which they had not spread naturally, the infestation on early peas was 76 per cent.

A few years later (1951) a report on the prevalence of the pea moth in Canada states:

"Populations (of the pea moth) remained at a low ebb in southwestern British Columbia although infestations of up to 5 per cent indicated a slight increase. Reports from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island indicated a decrease in population and little severe damage."

A peculiar feature of the pea moth parasites is the fact that they had developed under the conditions of the cultivated pea crop in England. Brought to this country they proved effective on the pea moth larvae in pea fields here, but were much less able to attack larvae that survived in the wild peas and vetches growing near the cultivated fields.



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This was the reverse of conditions under which parasites attacked the wheat stem sawfly. Parasites kept the sawfly reasonably in check in its native habitat of weeds and long-stemmed grasses but were much less effective when the sawfly found a new home in the cultivated wheat fields.

Woolly Apple Aphis

Man himself frequently interferes with the work of parasites in his efforts to control insect pests that trouble him. Woolly apple aphis has been a troublesome pest of the fruit grower in many countries. A parasite found attacking it in Eastern North America has been transferred, directly or indirectly to fourteen countries in Europe, four in Africa, six in South America and to Australia and New Zealand. Reports from these countries indicate that where the climate has enabled the parasite to breed freely it has gained considerable success in controlling the aphid.

In British Columbia the aphis had become a pest as early as 1914 and damaging outbreaks occurred periodically until the early 1930's. Injuries caused by the aphis in the bark of the trees permitted canker, a fungus disease, to gain access to the tree, resulting in many trees having to be destroyed.

The parasite was introduced in the Okanagan Valley in 1929. It became established and spread through the fruit growing area. The parasite checked the outbreaks of the aphid and there was little more trouble from canker.

Then DDT was included in the spray program because of its effectiveness in killing other insects. The woolly aphis was comparatively immune to DDT but not the parasite. As the parasites were killed the aphis again became a serious pest and the canker returned. Now another chemical, which does not kill the parasites is being substituted for DDT in the hope that the parasites will again increase in numbers and check the woolly apple aphis.

The extent to which use is being made of this method of controlling insect pests with parasites and predators, is shown by the fact that by the end of 1952 there were 55 species of insects for which 135 species of parasites and predators had been multiplied and released in Canada.

Since 1937 the total number released each year has run into millions. In 1937 it totalled 103,809,642 for 10 different species. By 1940 this had increased to 223,445,049. Since then the number has been reduced and in 1952 the total for seven species was 1,483,012.

The large numbers released in certain years have been associated with control of major widespread outbreaks of serious pests introduced from foreign lands — such as the corn borer, Oriental fruit moth, Spruce

sawfly and Pine sawflies. Another such flare up may come at any time. The numbers released are also tied up with nature, the habits of individual species, and their ability to reproduce and spread when released.

Should Spraying be Discontinued?

Can chemical sprays be discarded in order to protect the parasites and dependence placed on the parasites for control?

Entomologists who have been giving the most study to parasitic control of insect pests do not suggest that chemical control can be dispensed with in meeting emergency outbreaks of these pests. They do believe that indiscriminate, widespread

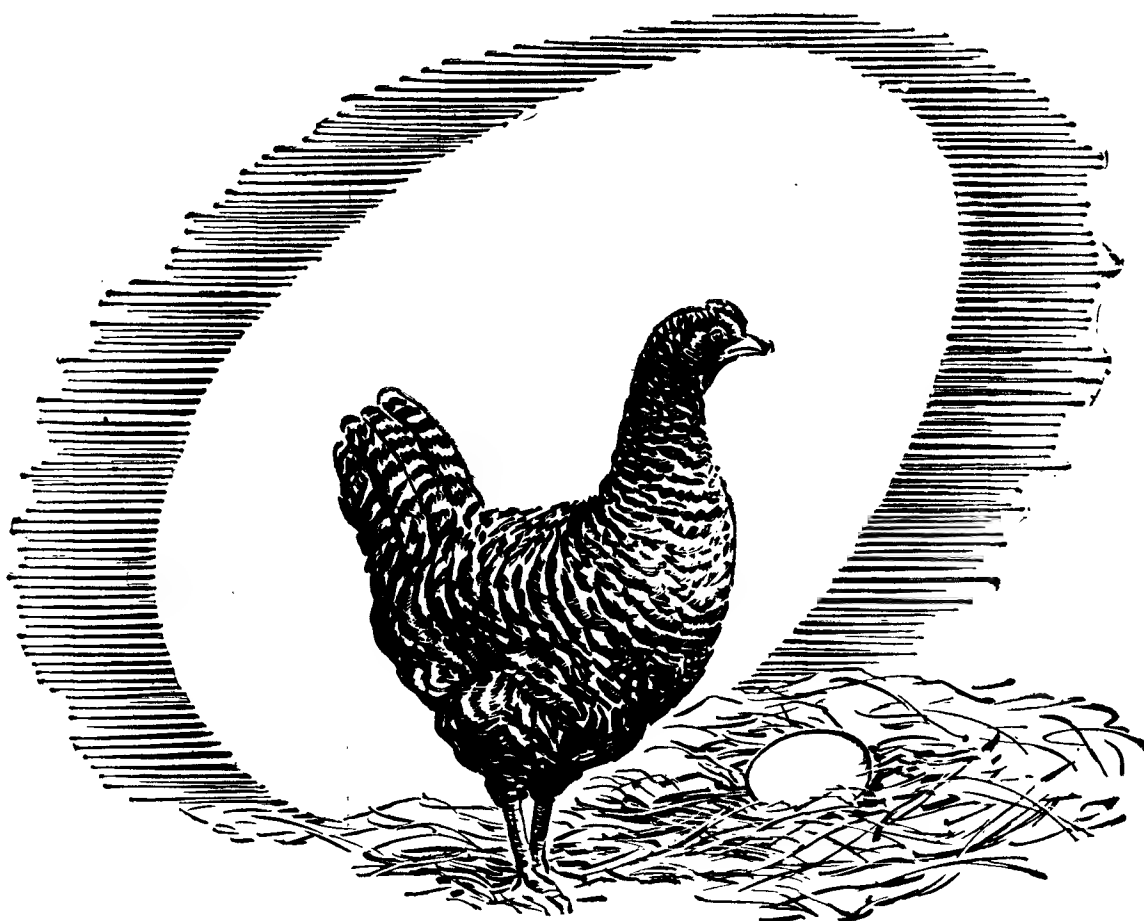
use of chemicals without more knowledge of what the ultimate result will be is inadvisable, possibly dangerous.

Knowledge of the worst insect pests, the parasites which feed on them, and the manner both react to changing conditions, is steadily growing. Entomologists are able to utilize this knowledge to forecast with increasing accuracy the areas and seasons in which the worst of these pests are likely to be present in sufficient numbers to cause serious damage. Where such outbreaks threaten, the only effective means of saving a crop may be the use of chemicals to destroy the pest. If treatment is confined to such threatened areas the natural

balance between the pests and the parasites attacking them is not likely to be seriously upset.

This is particularly the case if the chemist and the entomologist pool their knowledge to obtain the greatest chemical control of the pest with the least possible injury to the parasite or predator.

Fortunately this pooling of knowledge is gaining greater acceptance day by day, just as the pooling of scientific knowledge between many countries of the world is growing through such organizations as the International Plant Protection Convention, sponsored by the World Food and Agriculture Organization, and similar international groups.



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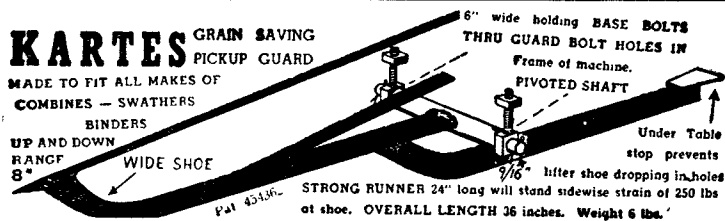
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Hon. David Ure replies to our irrigation editorial

To the Editor :

I HAVE before me the editorial page of your July issue in which I find this astounding statement :—

"Federal money, and federal money alone, has provided the means by which the waters of the St. Mary's river have been impounded. This water has turned southern Alberta into a veritable Garden of Eden."

Never have I read an agricultural editorial so devoid of truth and having so flagrant a disregard for facts. True, the St. Mary's dam was built with federal funds, but to date no water worthy of mention has reached the irrigated lands of southern Alberta.

The so-called "Garden of Eden" was not created by the Federal Government. The fact is that in 1920 they thrust the responsibility of development upon the Provincial Government. The "Garden of Eden" was created by monies, resources and the effort of such organizations as the Alberta Railway and Irrigation Company, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Canada Land and Irrigation Company and the Alberta Government. By guaranteeing bonds and underwriting other expenditures the Alberta Government made possible the construction of the Lethbridge Northern, United, New-West and Little Bow Irrigation Districts. The total construction investment by all the above named irrigation organizations was estimated at approximately \$35,000,000.00.

It is true the Federal Government promoted irrigation and made surveys, but it was the Province and the forementioned organizations that assumed the responsibility for construction and development and delivered the water to the lands that are now producing so abundantly.

In addition to the foregoing, there must be added the expenditures made by the various organizations in the maintenance and colonization of the various projects. In addition, the Alberta Government spent many millions of dollars in the field of maintenance and settlement of these projects. To the foregoing must be added the efforts and the treasures expended by thousands of farmers who pioneered the development of the irrigation districts of Southern Alberta, the "Garden of Eden" did not come into being without sacrifice.

The Government of this Province, on behalf of the taxpayers of Alberta, have contributed \$11,844,476.00 on irrigation projects in operation. We have spent since 1949-50, including this year's estimates on the St. Mary's River Project, nearly \$12,000,000.00. The estimated contribution by the Government of Canada is \$13,000,000.00 which includes the St. Mary's Dam, Pothole Dam, etc., up to and including Ridge Reservoir.

It is indeed unfortunate that people should become so enthusiastic for a political party at an election time that they lose sight of the facts. I am sure that as an editor of a periodical that circulates amongst the farm people of this province that you agree with me that the public are entitled to the facts.

I am, therefore, asking that you give sufficient space for the publishing of this letter and trust that this can be done in your next issue.

D. A. Ure,

Minister in Charge of Water Resources and Irrigation.

Critical of weed article

To the Editor:

It is difficult to understand just what objective Mr. Paul may have in mind by his contribution to your June issue, entitled "Prairie Weed Control, Z to A". With the chaff and other padding removed, the residual has a rather disturbing odor.

Is Mr. Paul inferring that the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Municipalities and the farmers, are so lacking in common sense and judgment that they have allowed themselves to be exploited by the agricultural chemical firms?

Mr. Paul made oblique reference to a "Spoil the Soil Campaign" with reference to emphasis on "Eradication" — there is not now, and never has been, any such policy as a spoil the soil campaign, and the thousands of farmers who have for many years successfully used soil sterilents will not be deceived by this misstatement; they know, Mr. Paul should know, that the soil is only temporarily sterilized, and all weeds do not, and cannot "elude eradication as usual"; some do, and some will, but the "eluding" obviously is not confined to the weeds.

The learned gentleman "eludes" the fact that wild mustard has been almost completely "eradicated" in districts where 2,4-D has been consistently used, and I can show him miles of roadside that in 1947 and previous, was white with hoary cress, now and for some years past, 99% "eradicated", and the soil is not spoiled.

(whatever that may mean) of weed control by legislation is drawing to a close, but fails to tell us by what manner of reasoning he arrives at that

Mr. Paul tells us that the "age" conclusion. A most casual glance at the several provincial weed acts will disclose the fact that the emphasis has not "always been on eradication". Enforcement of the provisions of the various weed acts is not perhaps now emphasized to the extent that it once was, and to a degree that is all to the good: "Control always; eradication whenever possible" is the rule today—has Mr. Paul any objection?

As regards the rather pointless reference to the several Weed Control Conference "touched off by 2,4-D in 1947", the increase in attendance from 195 in 1950 to 535 in 1952 speaks for itself, and whatever inference Mr. Paul was attempting to make, he overlooked, or failed to remark, that the average per cent dockage in 1951 was the lowest on record, which, considering the greatly increased acreage, is encouraging, for what it may be worth.

The writer considered it necessary to mention that 90% of the people attending the conferences have been from government departments, universities and municipalities, and only 10% farmers registered. What is that supposed to signify? The Western Canadian Weed Control Conferences are open to all interested in weed control. Does Mr. Paul conclude that the farmers are not interested?

Says Mr. Paul, "Everybody knows by now that sow thistle is a complete failure in the drought area"; is that news? And in "other districts it is too common to cause concern"; what other districts, Mr. Paul?

Your correspondent has used herbicides of one kind and another since 1928, and admittedly false claims, half truths and misleading statements have, in the past, been made to promote sales, but none the less and not withstanding, chemical weed control is effective, economical and harmless, when suitably mixed with caution and common sense, and is here to stay.

The value of Mr. Paul's opinions and judgment will be estimated as much by what he so carefully avoids mentioning as by what he emphasizes, and the gaps are high and wide.

P.S.—As regards Mr. Paul's alleged poetic effort, would it be proper to ask why he should not fill up his own

tank instead of letting Bill do it?
E. H. Crisfield.
617 - 7th Ave. W., Calgary, Alta.

Feeding and dwarfs

To the Editor :

After reading what Mr. Grant McEwan has to say re dwarf cattle I would like to point out that he failed to mention an equally important factor in raising normal sized cattle. That is the feeding of the cow during the nine months' gestation period. An under-fed cow will produce a weak and under-developed calf and it has little or no chance of growing to normal size no matter how good the breeding stock are. I refer to what Mr. McEwan says on page 10 of your June issue.

Fred Bowman.

Sharpewood, Man.

P.S.—You give Mr. Gardiner great praise for what he does for the farmers. It is his duty to do all he can. That is what he is paid for.—F. B.

To the Editor: Those index numbers

I am a constant reader of your paper and particularly the editorial page and special articles in which I find some very interesting and, I believe, sound opinions.

In your June issue, on page 6, around the middle of the page I read the following: "And when they look around for somebody to blame they always light on the farmer, whose prices have gone up less than anybody's wages; but whose costs are loaded with everybody's wage increases". I have been under the impression that such is not the case. As I remember the last figures I saw on the cost-of-living index, the figure stands somewhere in the neighborhood of 180 as compared to prewar. The Economic Analyst, a pub-

lication of the Federal Department of Agriculture, dated December, 1952, contained the following, quote "The index of farm prices from 284.9 in January to 250.5 in September of this year. The index for farm purchases rose from 236.6 in January to 243.4 in September". These figures would indicate that farm commodities were priced well above farm costs and at the lower figure of 250.5 in September was, I think, well above the wages of any worthwhile body of labor at that time.

The above item in your editorial may carry a meaning which I have missed, but I am afraid that the average farmer reading it might also arrive at the opinion that he was the "forgotten man". I live in a rural community here and from personal observation it seems to me, that during the past ten years, the farmer portion of our population have not fared too badly. I would very much regret seeing them develop an idea or state of mind in which they felt sorry for themselves.

A. B. Campbell.

Sperling, Man.

The old standard

It seems to me there wasn't much wrong with the older system of education when we learned the three "R's" and other fundamentals of a good, sound education. Obedience and respect were paramount: from which we were all to benefit.

To-day there is so much emphasis on self-expression. It perhaps has some good in its favor, but is grossly overdone! Heaven help us — what children need today is to know when to be quiet and listen!

Most of today's youth is very disrespectful of everyone and seems filled with its own importance. Surely something is lacking, it can't just be the trend of the times, but what is it?

(Continued on page 32)



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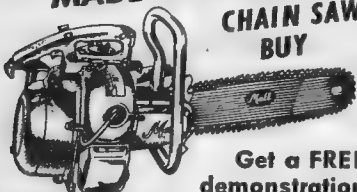
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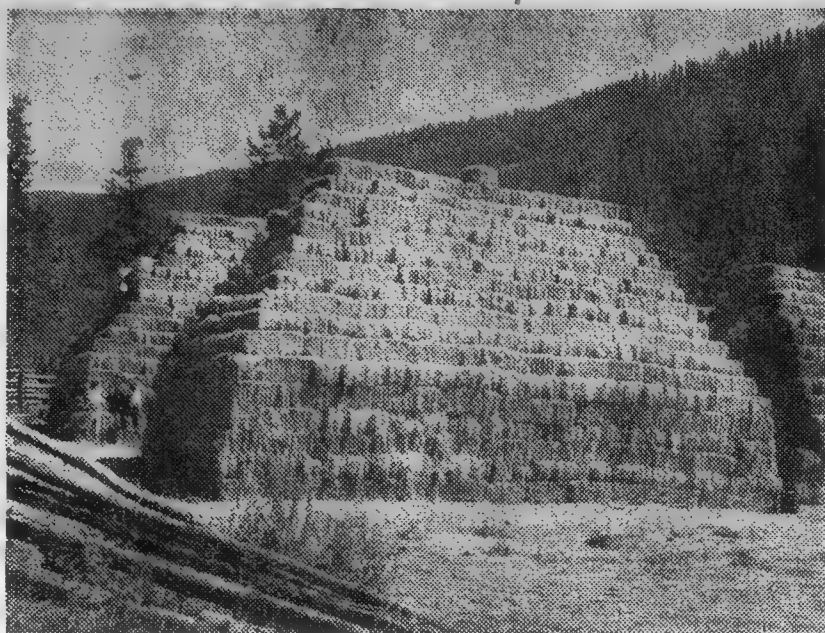


Photo by Richard Harrington.



The bare facts

AROUND the turn of the century, Harry Berry and I took a shipment of beef to Strathmore for export, a distance of about 25 miles. More cattle from the Rosebud-Kneehill districts were to join ours. Some confusion about the date caused Harry and I to arrive 24 hours ahead of time. Strathmore consisted of an empty section house and stockyards.

Dinnerless and supperless, we bunked down in a stock car, luckily with hay in it. In the morning, breakfastless we took the cattle out to graze. The weather was exceptionally warm for the time of year, so after locating the cattle round a

slough, we stripped and took a bath. Fooling around we suddenly saw the cattle "beating" it for home. Naked as on the day we entered this world, we raced for our horses, one of which was hobbled. Probably these horses had never seen the human body so fully exposed to view. Anyhow, they "pulled out". Fortunately we were able to run down the hobbled one after quite a chase; then the other horse and round up the cattle. All this time we were stark naked, our clothes being half a mile away.

The rest of the cattle to be shipped arrived in the afternoon, and, after brand inspection by (I think) Oscar Moorhouse, were duly shipped. We had about ten miles to ride to

(Continued from page 31)

Why all the experiments, they had a good, sound system and surely it didn't need complete replacing by the ultra modern.

I hope we find out soon wherein the inefficiency lies and rectify it quickly!

An Anxious Parent.

San Barnardine, Calif.

Fire Range

To the Editor:

A GREAT deal of money is being spent on defence; but we are practically defenceless against our greatest enemy,—FIRE. If an enemy plane were to fly over here dropping incendiary bombs, the whole country would be reduced to ashes before half the red tape could be unwound. We have insufficient fire-fighting equipment and the territory covered by each fire marshal is too large. Why couldn't we have a competent man appointed in each district

with authority to take charge in case of fire? Why shouldn't we have adequate fire-fighting equipment on hand in each district?

At present we depend too much upon remote control. A little education and training for everybody in the control of fires would not come amiss. This would be good defence tactics and it would save money in the long run, as the fire marshal seldom can get to a fire in time especially when there are half a dozen different fires in his territory at the same time.

S. G. Clark.

McLeod Valley, Alta.

Plowing tip

To the Editor:

In Western Canada anything is good enough and all that matters is to keep the tractor going as long as the gas holds out. A large tractor mired in the mid-

Jasper Bruce's, north of Cheadle Butts, where we did full justice to his cooking after missing five meals.

J. S. Sewell.

124 - 2nd St. N.E.,
Medicine Hat, Alta.

Mad cow

The old holstein was a temperamental old cow and flourished best under the milk of human kindness in exchange for the milk of nutrition which she produced. Not much even for a cow to expect.

I remember one day in particular, when I was about fourteen years of age, old Darkey suddenly developed a grudge. She'd become a problem for the men. It was milking time but she would not consent to having them put her in the barn—so she high-tailed it across the yard. Around and around she went, the men following her and using no uncertain kind of language. Enough of this she thought so she leaped over the fence and headed for the house where she saw a couple of us girls out in the yard.

Previewing the men's predicament, I walked toward old Darkey, offering her my hand and the milk of human kindness shone on my face, I guess, for she trotted right up to me. I caught her by the halter and stroked her silken hide. Then spoke a few endearing words to her while her poor heart settled down to normal beat.

In a few minutes I led her to one of the men who walked off to the barn with her in peace and harmony.

F. Chute.

Somme, Sask.

The old time threshing machine

To the modern young farmer the old steam threshing outfit

dle of a large piece of breaking prompts me to write.

When the land to be plowed is wider at one end than another a triangle to be finished is inevitable, that is the way it is done. When done there is fifty feet of ruts and holes from one end to the other where the tractor turned, truly an awful mess to be cleaned up.

A better way to manage this is as soon as the narrow end of the unplowed land is brought in to a space wide enough for the tractor to turn on (or horses) lift the plow when the tractor reaches the end of the furrow and turn short to go back on the other and drop the plow when the furrow wheel drops in place. Then each time stop and turn sooner, keeping an eye in leaving the space to turn on. Soon the objectionable short furrows will be plowed leaving a parallel strip through the middle to finish.

J. M. Pine.

Rat Lake, Alta.

must seem like something from pre-historic times. It's not quite that far back, but it is a good number of years since I saw one in action.

It was an impressive sight with its size, its belching smoke, its shrill whistle which announced meal time or with a series of short toots called for the man with the water tank to hurry up and give it a drink. Sometimes a certain number of short blasts meant that the bundle racks were not coming in with their loads fast enough and the monster was in danger of having to run idle for a few minutes.

But it was the cook of that outfit that impressed me the most. She presided over a small cook car which was moved from farm to farm with a team during which time she could not do any work, of course. Nevertheless, she turned out huge bakings of bread, buns, cakes, pies and cookies, besides the large quantities of meat and vegetables she prepared for the sixteen to twenty men. And, of course, there were piles of dishes to wash. To me, to accomplish so much work in such cramped quarters seemed quite impossible, but that cook did it all with an apparent ease that made it look simple.

To add to her work she was caring for a small grand daughter who was staying with her in the cook car.

But that remarkable woman never seemed in a hurry and apparently had lots of time for everything.

Mrs. F. H. Ada.

Sylvan Lake, Alta.

Seven-mile hike around the house

THOUGH no women would deliberately set out on a seven-mile hike in her bedroom slippers, busy housewives who wear slippers all day long are doing just that. They are walking an average of seven miles a day in shoes that were never intended to cover great distances.

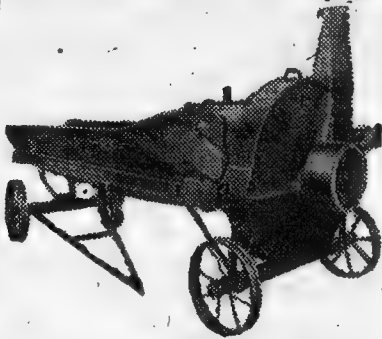
Bedroom slippers are necessary accessories and certainly have a place in everyone's life. However, they were never designed to replace shoes.

More and more housewives are appreciating the importance of wearing proper shoes around the house. They are beginning to realize that shoes of a stronger construction are necessary to their general well-being as well as foot health. Soft slippers are being left in the bedroom where they belong and exchanged for a pair of low-heel shoes with firm support.

Some homemakers are turning to those California-type casuals that are so popular with teen-agers. They like their informal styling and walking ease.



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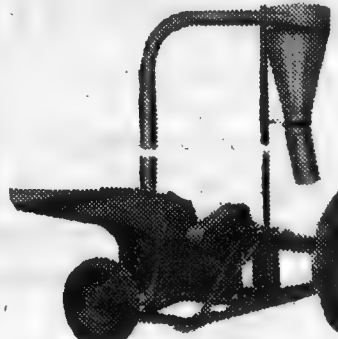
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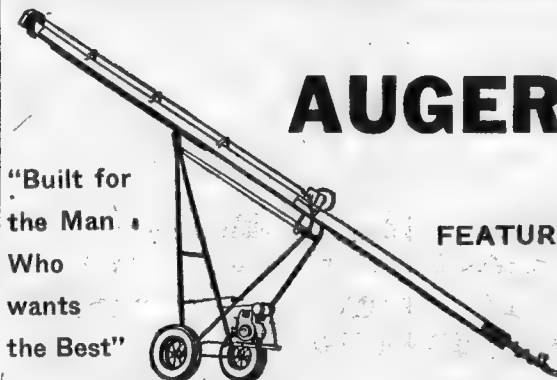
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I SAW ON THE FARM

A SECTION FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

One day our duck and drake were out on the field where a wild duck and drake were. These two have been coming there quite often. The wild drake would sit low in the stubble with just his neck sticking out like a snake. Our drake would go up to the wild one and it would fly up a ways and land. Then our drake would go up to the wild drake and quack. Then he would come back to his mate and walk around and quack if telling her that he had chased the other one away and thought it was something to brag about.

Wayne Penner.
Northern Pine, Sask.

Last summer when I was leaving the cows out of the barn our young kitten was sitting in the walk, and the old mother cat nearby, when one cow stepped on the young one which made the poor creature yell terribly. The mother cat heard it. Instantly she chased the cow; jumped on her back, clawing and biting, challenging the cow to fight, but the cow galloped off to the pasture as fast as she could.

Arthur K. Plett.
Apdo. 180, Chihuahua, Chih, Mexico.

Last year my brother, Arthur, found a wild duck's nest. Something happened to the mother duck. She left her nest with five eggs in it. So my brother and I took the eggs and put them in the incubator with the chick eggs. In a few weeks there were three little ducks with the baby chicks. We put them all in a house together, and the ducks wouldn't eat and three days later they died.

Donna Brietzke.
Rochester, Alberta.

Last fall, after threshing was over, Daddy went out to the granary to look at the wheat. He saw two wild doves out there, but we didn't know if they were not tame pigeons of ours or not. Two days later, we saw them again, and we knew they were wild ones. They were very beautiful. It was the first time they were seen in this part of Alberta.

Anna Simmons.
Tawatinaw, Alta.

Last year we had a straw stack quite close to the barn. Our horse, Harry, remained outside all winter. Harry would roam all over the farm through the winter alone. Then one day he came home and lay down in the straw stack. That night we had a snowstorm. From that

day on, before every storm, Harry would come home to the straw stack. After a little while we began to understand. Every time he came to the stack, we prepared for a storm whether the radio forecasted it or not. Harry was much more dependable than the forecaster because he was right every time.

Mary Ann Grace.
R.R. No. 3, Bowmanville, Ont.

Just north of our house is the henhouse. Next to it is an open basement. It was Saturday, February 14th, when Phylis and I cleaned the henhouse. I got an old tub which was near the basement and happened to glance into the basement. I saw something move, it moved again, and I saw it was a rabbit. Its white color kept me from seeing it sooner. I called my sister who also had trouble seeing the rabbit when she came. The rabbit was very afraid. I told Mom about it. She gave me some carrots for the rabbit. When Dad came home from town I ran to tell him about the surprise. Dad and I jumped into the basement, onto the soft snow. Dad said it was a bush rabbit. We noticed blood all over the basement. Dad said the rabbit had broken his toe by trying to jump out of the basement. We caught the rabbit and turned him loose in the garden. Away, away he ran to his home in the bush.

Margaret Siemens.
Box 49, Hepburn, Sask.

One day this winter, when it was warm and the sun was shining, my brothers took the two saddle horses from the barn and tied them to a sleigh which was beside the barn. Thinking that they may be hard to catch, they didn't want them to run in the pasture. After dinner, they went to town by truck, and didn't think of putting the horses in the barn. As evening was getting nearer, the cows started to come home. We have one cow that dislikes horses. As soon as she was in the yard she started to fight with the one horse. My brother of four years was looking out the window, seeing that she was after the horse, he called to us, "look there, she's fighting." So we hurried to the door, to call the dog to chase her away. But surprising, the dog was already chasing the cow around the barn. It sure pays to have a good dog to keep watch over the yard.

M. Anhorn.
Box 36, Hilda, Alberta.

In the spring some years ago my mother had cleaned the basement and had thrown out some small potatoes for the

chickens to pick at. Then we all went to town. When we returned the geese were all standing by the potatoes and the geese were chattering away very excited. So we went closer to see what was bothering them. The gander was standing by them jerking his head back and forth, looking very pathetic as well as very frightened. We looked closer and saw something like a large egg in his neck. He had swallowed a potato that was almost too large for him, but he did manage to work it down. We thought he would choke, but we still had to laugh at him as he looked very funny.

Kay Moorhouse.

Breton, Alberta.

Here is a true story of what I saw on the farm. I read your paper and enjoy it very much. One year we had an old mother rabbit in a little pen beside the henhouse. We found a chicken egg in it one day. Our rabbit had babies one night. When I went down to look at the baby rabbits, a hen was in there. She was setting on the rabbits. When the mother rabbit came near her she would peck her. Apparently the hen thought, from her egg, a rabbit had hatched. I took the hen out and put her in the henhouse. The mother rabbit was very glad to see her young.

Joyce Steeves.

Hoadley, Alberta.

Roosters can be just as courteous as a person as I found out one afternoon when I was out in our yard. I saw our rooster and two hens following him one behind the other. When the rooster arrived at the pasture fence he stopped and placed one foot on the bottom strand of wire then the two hens walked through and the rooster followed after them.

Bernice Marsh.

West Summerland, B.C.

Last fall I watched two hawks out in the field. They were fighting over something on the ground. Then one of them got a hold of the object and flew off with the other hawk in pursuit. The first hawk dropped the object and the second one swooped in and caught the object in mid-air before it had dropped half a dozen feet. I wouldn't believe it possible if I hadn't seen it myself.

Donald Page.

Mullinger, Sask.

When we drive our cows to the pasture we ride the pony behind them. They stay in the yard at night and we take them to the pasture in the morning. One morning my brother went out to take the cows to the pasture. He was going to catch the pony and drive the cows out. When he got out he saw the cows going across the yard to the gate with the pony behind them. When they got to the gate he stopped and waited for someone to open it and let the

cows out. He had got into the habit of taking them out, so he started doing it by himself.

Marjorie Munro.

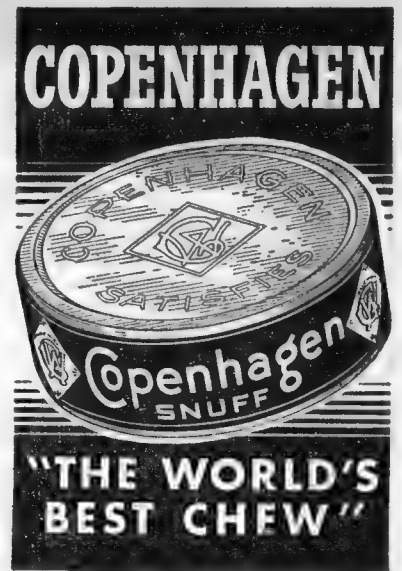
R.R. No. 3, Minnedosa, Man.

One night when Mom went to get the eggs, she noticed a good-sized hole in one side of our sod chicken-house. At supper, Mom told Dad what she had seen. At first, he thought it was a skunk, but decided that a badger must have made the hole, since it was so large. For a time we thought nothing of it, but every day two or three hens were gone. Dad set two traps but never caught anything. Then he decided to sit up in the chicken house until it came and then shoot it. He sat up for one night with no success, only our black cat came. The next

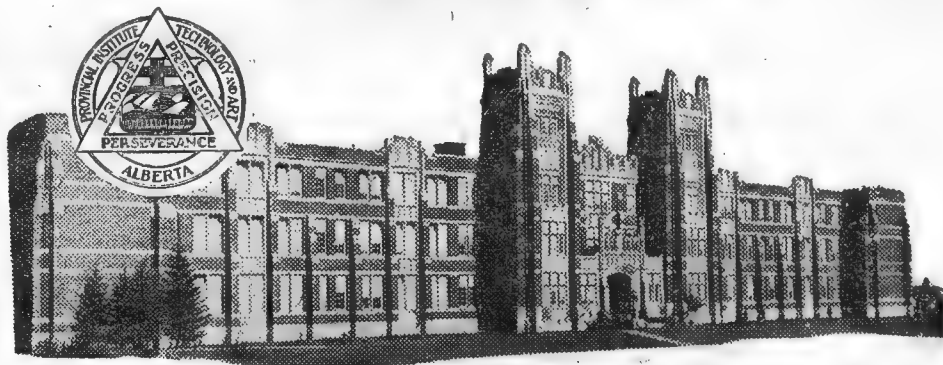
morning he got up at about five o'clock to try and shoot it. After waiting only fifteen minutes he heard a shuffling sound. It was the badger, but he was on his way out. It was too late to shoot, so Dad decided to wait and see if he came in again. About five minutes later he did and this time Dad shot and got him. On inspection the next day we found that he had one claw missing. When we told the neighbors we found that a badger had been to a farm about a mile away and had been caught in a trap and had one claw torn off. This proved that the badger was one and the same and that he had come a mile to escape capture.

Lynne Bowen.

Glenside, Sask.



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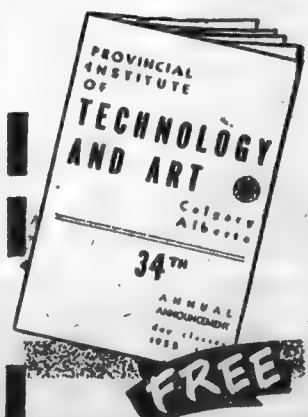
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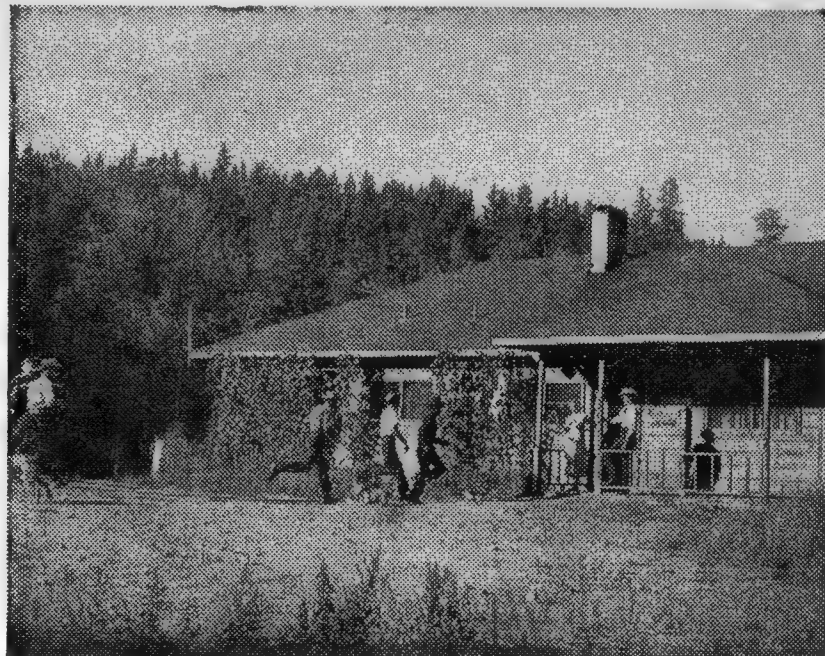
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Dinner Call



This interesting shot of the call to the cook house door was taken on the Circle 8 Ranch by Richard Harrington.

Why insects migrate — We change their environment

Special Correspondence by
Dominion Department of Agriculture Information Service

WHEN farmers first broke up virgin sod to plant crops they upset a natural balance of insect population that had persisted for centuries. They changed an abundance and variety of insect food, growing in a hard, closely-packed soil to fewer plants of one type growing in a comparatively loose soil.

Some insects could not survive under the changed conditions and disappeared. Others were able to maintain themselves but were unable to increase or even hold their previous numbers. A few species finding the new conditions to their liking and the new crops sufficiently similar to those they had been feeding on before, have increased and now constitute a serious menace to the successful production of crops.

H. L. Seamans, Division of Entomology, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, gives several examples of such insects that are serious pests of field crops and tells why they have been able to persist and increase.

The first deep ploughing improved conditions for several species of wireworms which are now exacting a big annual toll from the majority of crops grown. The adult beetles deposit their eggs in the soil but are poorly equipped for digging so they cannot penetrate any distance into a hard, packed sod. Eggs laid close to the soil surface are exposed to high temperature and dryness, two factors that hinder their survival. Deep ploughing serves to loosen the soil and the adult beetles have little difficulty in placing their eggs at a depth where con-

ditions are more favorable and many more are able to survive.

Where Cutworms Thrive

Moths, the larvae of which are cutworms that attack field crops, normally lay their eggs in loose dusty soil and avoid that which is even slightly crusted by light rainfall. Most of these larvae in their native habitat feed and move about on or near the soil surface where they are at the mercy of a host of parasites and predators. When the soil was loosened by cultivation and they were able to move and feed below ground many more of them had a chance to survive.

"In working with the pale western cutworm", says Mr. Seamans, "it was interesting to note that ploughing in the autumn and burying the eggs under six inches of soil resulted not only in a greater percentage of the fields being damaged the next spring, but that more of them were 100 per cent damaged than with any other type of cultivation."

Answers to Canadian Quiz

1. 500,000 square miles.
2. In 1902.
3. Over 42,000 miles.
4. Mackenzie King.
5. In July, 1945.
6. In 1942.
7. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
8. Mount Logan in the Yukon, 19,850 feet.
9. Middle Island in Lake Erie.
10. Yellowknife, N.W.T.

The Wheat Stem Sawfly

Large areas of single or closely related crops have done a great deal to increase and spread many insect pests. The wheat stem sawfly normally inhabited only those regions where long-stemmed grasses were present. The greater part of the open prairie was covered with short-stemmed grasses unsuited for sawfly development. As extensive areas were opened up to wheat growing the sawfly found a new and very suitable host plant. The result has been a spread of the insect to the greater part of the wheat growing area of the great plains.

The sunflower beetle was widely distributed on wild sunflowers, but it did not bother any one seriously until farmers started to plant large fields of sunflowers in areas adjacent to it.

Cabbage and turnip growers might reduce some of the pests that bother their crops most seriously if they could get rid of all the wild mustard—a closely related plant—which serves as an alternate host and then destroyed the pests on the cultivated plants.

Hold good hens for extra profit

EGG prices have reached a more profitable level for poultry raisers. The market outlook for the fall and winter is favorable, due, in part, to the general decrease in chicks hatched this spring for pullet replacements. In view of this favorable situation, it will be wise to hold over the best of the yearling hens and take advantage of the extra profits available from the production of large eggs. Cull out all non-layers and poor producers.

In yellow skinned breeds such as Leghorns, Barred Plymouth Rocks and New Hampshires, a good guide to culling is the coloring of the shanks. The shanks of a good layer will be thin, flat, and smooth, and the yellow color will be bleached a chalky white. The shanks of a non-layer will be coarse and round with a decided yellow color in the yellow skinned breeds. With Light Sussex, the shank color will not be a satisfactory culling guide.

The vent of a good layer will be large, moist and dilated whereas that of a non-layer will be small and dry. The abdomen of a good producer is full with soft, pliable skin while that of a non-producer is shallow and the skin thick, hard and fatty.

Further information on culling the flock can be obtained by writing the Experimental Farm, Brandon, for an excellent bulletin on the subject prepared by the Canada Department of Agriculture.

When housing the young pul-

lets this fall, it is important from a health standpoint to separate them completely from the yearling hens which are to be carried over.

Intermediate wheatgrass

INTERMEDIATE wheatgrass is a relatively new introduction to Western Canada and is proving to be quite suitable for hay and pasture purposes in the more moist black soil zone of central and southern Alberta. It is very similar to brome in its growth habits, feed value, cattle preference, tolerance of flooding and alkali, and in its ability to mix with alfalfa and other grasses for forage mixtures. However, in tests at the Beaverlodge Experimental Station, intermediate wheatgrass is inferior to brome in hay and pasture yields; thus it finds no place in the forage recommendations for the Peace River region.

As a seed producing crop, intermediate wheatgrass is later maturing than brome, otherwise it is similar with regard to seeding rates, seed yields, resistance to shattering and ease of harvesting. Stands seeded at 6-8 pounds per acre at a depth of 1 to 1½ inches in a moist, firm, clean seedbed have proven to be reliable seed producers until food and moisture reserves run low.

Intermediate wheatgrass is a member of the same family as couchgrass, one of the noxious weeds threatening Peace River agriculture. The two plants are very similar in growth habits and spike and seed appearance. Unless a seed producer knows of a source of intermediate wheatgrass seed guaranteed entirely free from couchgrass and brome seed and is sure his own farm is free of these two grasses, the introduction of intermediate wheatgrass into the Peace River region should be strongly discouraged.



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by A.W. NUGENT
THE WORLD'S
LEADING
PUZZLEMAKER

1 2 3 4 5 6
ARA DNA IDI AND MEG GEM



EACH NUMBER ABOVE STANDS FOR THE THREE LETTERS WITH IT.


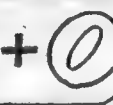
P RINT THE CORRESPONDING LETTERS UNDER THE LIKE NUMBERS BELOW, TO FORM A SEVEN-WORD SENTENCE THAT WILL READ THE SAME EITHER FORWARD OR BACKWARD.





3 2 5
6 4 3

WHAT 3 STATES ARE SUGGESTED BELOW?

10 SE

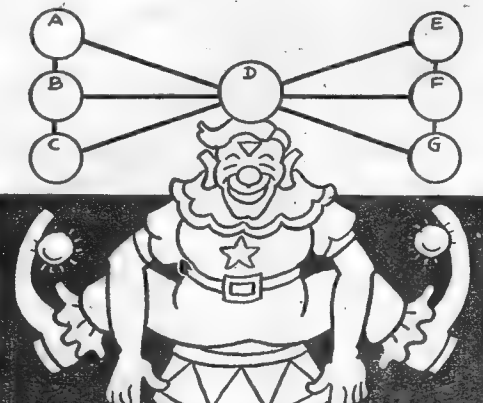
2  + 

3  

1, TENNESSEE; 2, COLORADO; 3, ARKANSAS.

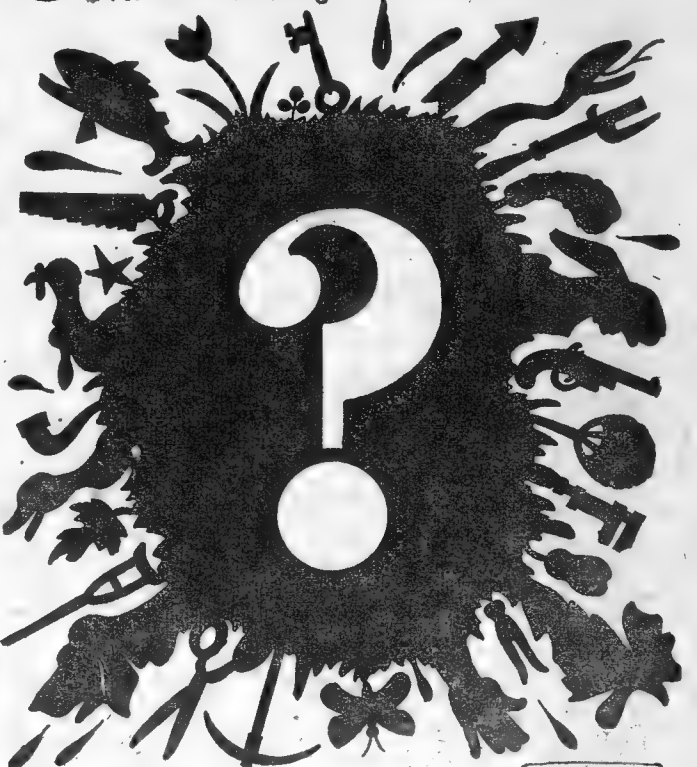
6·7·9·10
11·13·14

WRITE THE ABOVE NUMBERS IN THE CIRCLES TO MAKE EACH OF THE FIVE STRAIGHT ROWS OF NUMBERS ADD TO 30



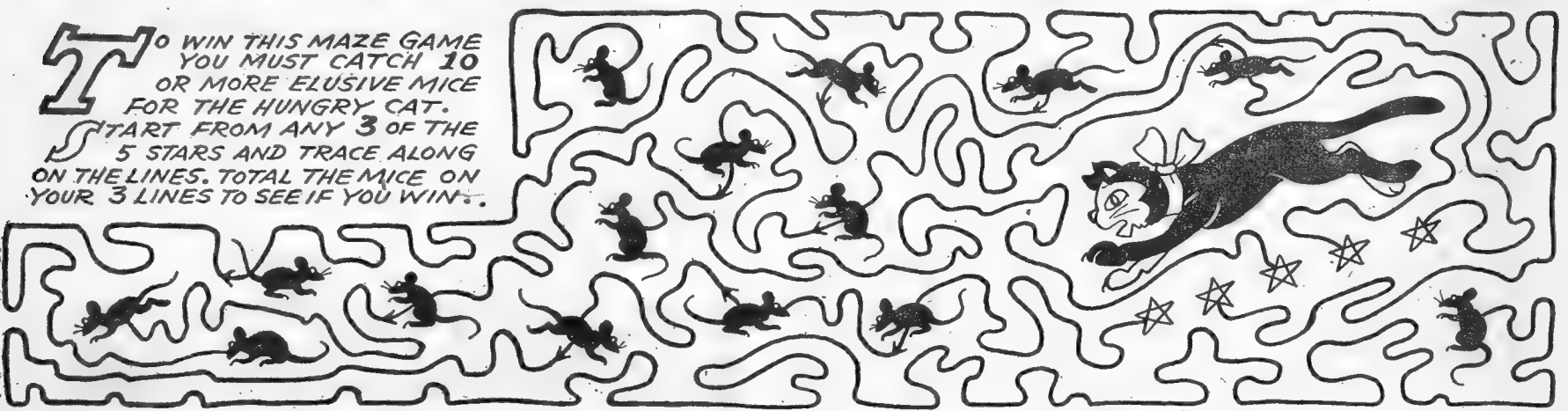
SOLUTION: A, 9; B, 14; C, 7; D, 10; E, 13; F, 6; G, 11.

THIS
BLOT.
PUTS YOU ON THE SPOT.
CAN YOU DETECT AT LEAST 27 THINGS PICTURED HERE?

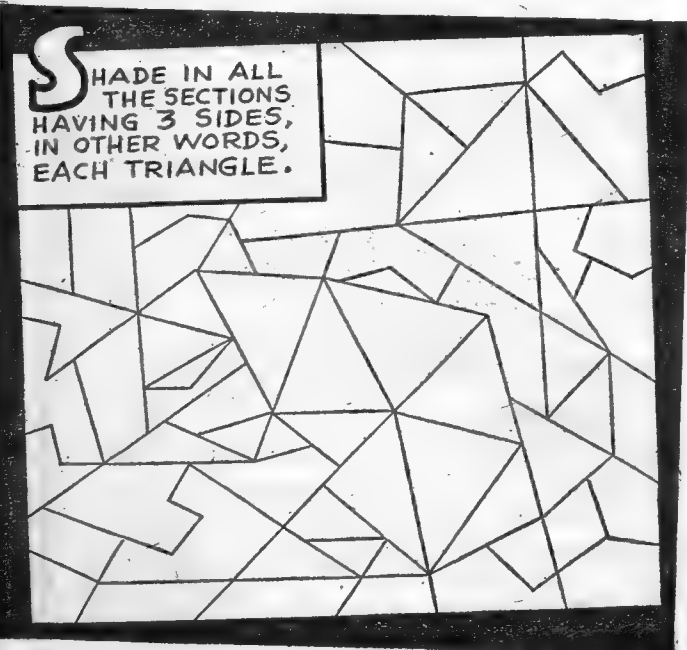


10-14-51
A.W. NUGENT
(Released by The Associated Newspapers)
ARROW, SNAKE, CAN OPENER, SQUASH, RABBIT, REVOLVER, FAN, WRENCH, PEAR, ROOSTER, CLOTHES PIN, HAND, BUTTERFLY, PICK, SCISSORS, DOG, CRUTCH, LEAF, DUCK, PIPE, TURKEY, STAR, SAW, FISH, TULIP, CLOVER AND KEY.

TO WIN THIS MAZE GAME YOU MUST CATCH 10 OR MORE ELUSIVE MICE FOR THE HUNGRY CAT. START FROM ANY 3 OF THE 5 STARS AND TRACE ALONG ON THE LINES. TOTAL THE MICE ON YOUR 3 LINES TO SEE IF YOU WIN.

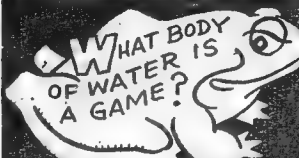


SHADE IN ALL THE SECTIONS HAVING 3 SIDES, IN OTHER WORDS, EACH TRIANGLE.



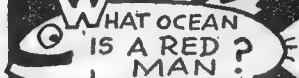
WHAT SEA IS NOT ALIVE?

WHAT BODY OF WATER IS A GAME?

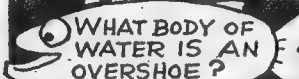


1, THE DEAD SEA; 2, POOL.

WHAT OCEAN IS A RED MAN?



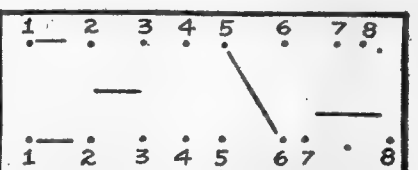
WHAT BODY OF WATER IS AN OVERSHOE?



3, INDIAN; 4, ARCTIC.

KIDDIE CORNER

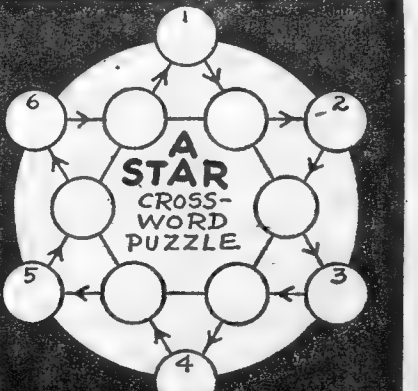
SPELL A COUNTRY. JOIN EACH PAIR OF DOTS WITH STRAIGHT LINES.



READ THE WORDS IN THE DIRECTIONS OF THE ARROWS.

1, FLOOD; 2, LOITER; 3, TO GUARD; 4, WORRY; 5, UNWILLING TO HEAR OR LISTEN; 6, HIGH IN STATURE.

A.W. NUGENT
10-14-51
(Released by The Associated Newspapers)



1, FLOW; 2, LOAF; 3, WARD; 4, FRET; 5, DEAF; 6, TALL.

It is my custom after answering one of your letters to draw a line through the letter to show me that letter has been answered. I noticed when cleaning out my files the other day that some letters lacked this distinguishing mark so I wondered if I really had sent the writers their replies.

I'm very human you know and make lots of mistakes so all I can say is "I'm sorry if I've slipped up on any of these." I decided I'd treat any such letters to a public reply on this page and hope that will square up any possible omissions on my part.

Q. Have you the recipe for a pudding called Alaska pudding and will you please send me the same?

Baked Alaska Pudding

(the only one I know so named)

I sponge cake, 3 egg whites, 6 tblsp. confectioner's sugar, 1 pt. ice cream. Remove centre from top of cake, leaving shell $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. Fill with ice cream and sprinkle with nuts (if wished). Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry. Add sugar and flavoring if desired. Spread on top of cake and bake in hot oven (450F) until light brown about 5 min. Serve at once.

Q.: How should I care for my wicker basket? I read recently to put wicker furniture out in rain... is that true? Should I varnish it or leave in natural state? (Mrs. P.M., Byemore, Alta.)

A.: Untreated wicker should not be exposed to rain. Linseed oil is recommended as a good agent to rub into it. When cleaning wicker use either soda or salt... either a very strong solution of either say 5 tblsp. to each 2 qts. water or even rub the dry salt into the wicker with a small brush... rinsing with water afterwards. Some like to turn the hose onto it for rinsing. (Note: I'd consult your paint dealer and ask him if there is a new preparation on the market especially for wicker).

Q.: How can I renew the life in feathers that seem so limp? I thought possibly there were too many feathers in the pillow and removed some but they are not any better. (Mrs. C.S., Mission City, B.C.)

A.: See answer for question below.

Q.: What is the best way to clean the feathers in a pillow? I have a hunch you are going to say 'dry clean them' but should the feathers be dry cleaned before or after putting in new ticking? (Mrs. A.H., Lethbridge)

A.: I consulted a professional dry cleaner about both of the above questions and he told me that feathers that have lost their elasticity are as much in

Farm and Ranch Housewife

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE RURAL WOMEN OF WESTERN CANADA

Let's Ask Aunt Sal...

need of cleaning as really dirty feathers. And although he is a dry cleaner by trade he said he does not recommend dry cleaning feathers. He thinks the only good way to clean them is washing them in water. Add ammonia to the water, 1 cup to tub, instead of soap detergents. Empty the feathers into a clean sack (like flour sack), pack them lightly so the feathers will have room to move about. Fasten the end of sack securely and then place the sack in washing machine. Give it several rinsings in clear water of like temperature. To dry them the best way is to lay them out on clean paper and leave for several days. If you lack the room for this then hang them on clothes line. A day when a light wind of blowing is best. On a calm day you'll have to go out and shake the bags often to keep feathers moving about. Avoid the strong sunshine as this too is not good for feathers.

Q.: For years I have wanted to get a new copy of the Five Roses cook book put out about 1920. As this is the same one that contained that recipe 'Coontown Cake' I know there must be many of them throughout the country but the point is does any one want to spare her book? I wrote to the company but they are not printing them now. (Mrs. E.H., Coutts, Alta.)

A.: At least two hundred of you kind readers sent me copies of the 'Coontown' cake so I agree with Mrs. H. there must be many Five Roses cook books throughout the land. If there is anyone who wants to part with her copy or has two copies will you drop me a card and tell me please... don't mail the book without writing first!

Q.: I am preparing work to place in an exhibition this fall and want to know where I can get a book especially written with instructions on preparing entries for exhibitions. (Mrs. H. B., Otto, Man.)



"Wow, such excitement - next time I'm going to have a quiet wedding at home."

A.: I would think by writing to Women's Interests, Dept. of Agriculture at your provincial capital they should be able to give you information in this matter.

Note: All readers are invited to send in their home making problems to Aunt Sal in care of Farm & Ranch Review, Calgary, Alta. If you wish a private reply enclose a stamped self addressed envelope. Kindly limit one question to each letter. There is no charge for this service.

Q.: I would like a sweet cucumber relish the type that can be bought at a hot-dog stand. —Miss M. G., Bowmanville, Ont.)

A.: I am not sure whether this is a ringer for the one you want... but it is good.

Cucumber Relish

(Sent in by Mrs. E. S., Hanna, Alta.)

25 cukes (4 to 6 inches), 2 green peppers, 2 red peppers, 3 large onions, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup salt, 1 tblsp. mustard seed, 1 tblsp. celery seed, 3 cups brown sugar, 3 cups mild vinegar.

Wipe cukes and peel onions. Force through food chopper and sprinkle with salt. Stand over night. Drain and rinse. Remove seeds and pithy parts of peppers and put through food chopper. Boil sugar, vinegar and spices for 10 minutes. Add drained vegetables. Heat just to boiling point but do not cook longer. Turn into sterilized jars and cover with thick paraffin.

Aunt Sal.

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September is my favorite month
I love it's every hour:
With the sapphire for its
special gem,
The poppy for its flower.

I WONDER how many years now I've stated that this is my favorite month, and that I'm so glad it is my birthday month too! I'd really have to do some counting back to give you the answer. Many of you have written in to tell me you, too, are September-born and are mighty glad of it too. Except for the harvest there is so little that is autumnal about September in Western Canada: the weather is just a prolonging of summer with a slight cool touch in the mornings and evenings and a noticeable shortening of the days.

The spicy tang of pickle-making pours forth from our kitchens. Except for the beets, I don't really get down to the business of pickling until September. From your letters I conclude that dill pickles are the general favorite with most of you. The requests for this recipe come in year after year and month after month. I changed my recipe last fall, or rather tried out a new one. And they turned out so well and have "kept" so splendidly (or they would have if I'd locked them up), so I'm going to try the same recipe again this year. I'll share this recipe with you now. And giving credit where credit is due I'll admit this is Mrs. J.

Aunt Sal Suggests...

S.'s recipe. This lady has walked off with prizes at three city exhibitions.

Before giving this recipe I'm going to repeat that I did not use the sprigs of the dill plant itself but used the oil of dill instead. If some of you, like myself, are allergic to the dill plant you'll be spared much sneezing if you use the oil instead. Buy it at your druggist's... about 25c worth did up 40 quarts. Better invest in a new medicine dropper too. Just two drops for each quart gives it that honest-to-goodness zippy flavor. Now for the recipe which is:

Dill Pickles

(From Mrs. J.S., Lethbridge, Alberta).

Pack small, well washed cukes into clean, sterile jars. Make a liquor of these: 1 pint vinegar, 1 qt. water and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coarse salt. Boil until salt and sugar are dissolved and then pour over the cukes. If you're using the dill plant, pack it alternately in the jars with the cukes.

Note: When using the oil of dill, the pickles never spewed over one mite.

The other pickle that won itself spontaneous words of praise from my guests this past year was a relish that I tried out for the first time last fall.

I'm so sure that you'll enjoy it, too, that I'm going to give it space this month also.

Tomato Relish (this is really green relish but I made some of it with both green and ripe tomatoes and it was mouth-smacking, too).

Wash and slice 3 qts. green tomatoes; wash and break up 1 small cauliflower; peel and slice 5 medium-sized cukes; and 5 large onions; remove tongues and seeds from 3 green peppers and slice thin. Mix into the above $\frac{1}{4}$ qt. water and drain. Peel, core and slice into same pot 3 large apples. Then add these: 4 cups white sugar, 4 cups white vinegar, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cayenne, 2 tbsps. celery seed, 3 tbsps.

mustard seed, 1 tsp. tumeric, $1\frac{1}{2}$ tbsps. pickling spice.

Heat to boiling point, stirring until sugar dissolves. Boil gently uncovered, stirring frequently until thickened... about two hours. Pour into hot, sterilized jars.

Note: — What I liked about this relish (besides the yummy taste) was that you only needed the one kettle and there wasn't so much ceremony to the making as there is with some pickles. Just chop, mix, cook, stir and eat! (better wait for six weeks though, that is the recognized waiting period for most pickles.)

A reader from Ontario wrote in to this column away back last May requesting several rather fancy recipes. She stated that she was expecting visitors from the United States this summer and wanted to show them that we Canadians could cook, too! One thing she asked for was "bouillabaisse" and right after it she placed the words "banana cake", so I surmised that long-tailed word beginning with B was some fancy name for the cake. I failed to find it so sent her my favorite banana cake recipe (which you saw in the July issue). She wrote me again apologizing for her punctuation and explained that it was a fish... not a cake recipe. So I set forth on a second hunt... through all my fish recipes this time... but still no luck. Then



"Too bad they didn't have your overall size, Dear, but at least we aren't going home empty handed."

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Basic WHOLE WHEAT Dough

Scald

- $3\frac{3}{4}$ cups milk
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup granulated sugar
- $4\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup shortening

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup lukewarm water

1 tablespoon granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

3 envelopes Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk mixture.

Stir in

- 6 cups whole wheat flour
- and beat until smooth and elastic; work in 4 cups more (about) whole wheat flour

Turn out on board sprinkled with whole wheat flour and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead 10 minutes. Divide into 3 equal portions and finish as follows:

1. WHOLE WHEAT BREAD

Shape one portion of dough into a loaf and fit into a greased loaf pan about $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until just doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375° , 35 to 40 minutes, covering loaf with heavy brown paper after first 15 minutes of baking.

2. PAN BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 16 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball and arrange in a greased 8-inch square cake pan. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until

doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375° , about 30 minutes, covering buns with heavy brown paper after first 15 minutes of baking.

3. SALAD OR WIENER ROLLS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a slim roll 4 to 5 inches long. Place, well apart, on greased cookie sheets. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375° , about 20 minutes. Split rolls and fill with salad or heated wieners.



one evening I was idly leafing through a magazine (August issue of Good Housekeeping) and right before my eyes appeared the much sought after recipe . . .

There it was big as life BOUILLABIASSE (and we were even given its pronunciation "boo-ya-bays".) So at long last I learned it is a fish soup. The "fish" part calls for lobster, shrimp, haddock and clams! The seasoning calls for just about everything in the line of flavoring . . . except vanilla and cinnamon! In fact, the entire recipe consumed two pages in the magazine. So if any of you are thinking of writing me for a copy of this recipe . . . well, think again, for I declare I don't believe I'd care to copy that if Queen Elizabeth herself asked me!

Sometime ago a lady asked me how to reconnect the spirit in a dairy thermometer. (Remember that question?) The only help I was able to give her was to advise that she send it to a surgical supply house for

repairs. But now one of our up-and-coming readers sends in the story of her successful experience in repairing such a thermometer. Here is what A. W., of Imperial, Sask., writes, and I quote: "I found by heating the bulb of the thermometer gradually the spirit came back together just enough to join it. Too much heat will cause the bulb to break so great care must be taken. I have tried pouring boiling water over it or holding it fairly close to the heat from the kitchen stove. I have tried out this experiment on several thermometers and they were not damaged in any way and the spirit remained joined." . . . There is a good idea and the writer declares it turned out 100% successful. (Thank you, A. W., for writing in.)

I think I'm speaking for all readers when I say we enjoy these personal experience stories and welcome more of them. So until next month . . . Bye bye for now . . . and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

Country Diary

WE have arrived at a time of year which to some of us is the most beautiful of all. When the prairie countryside lies still and warm in the golden September sunshine, everything seems to be enhanced by the aura of harvest. Another cycle of growth and work has been completed; and magnificent Autumn, which some poetic voice called "the Sabbath of the year" is just ahead.

Now comes the annual "back to school" movement all over the country, and this is excitement enough for the juvenile marchers. Books and paraphernalia of learning, not to mention smart new togs, are assembled ready for another year's erudition. One may express a hope that during the blessed days of sunshine and leisure the young folk have known something of the uncapturable spirit that lies behind the forms of Nature, and have listened to her music and felt the serenity of life in untrammelled freedom. Our modern education, I think, tends to tell and explain, conforming to schedules and charts rather than to living and growing.

Both ends of day are clear, the afternoons steeped in golden light. At eve fireflies flicker, crickets chirp, the moon rides, a lustrous galleon on a deep, dark wave. The Evening Star rises above the tallest poplar and a scintillating canopy spreads out over the vast, dusky dome of heaven as the lesser lights take up their watch like sentinels of the night. The approaching shadows of night could not be more beautifully expressed than in the unadorned words of the Ettrick Shep-

herd: "Tween the gloaming and the mirk, When the kye came hame." Twilight, sunset, nightfall — whatever you will — has magic in it for all who pause to watch the changing of the guard, when day meets night, the greatest pageant on earth for us who dwell down here.

It is not too late in the year for a Sunday afternoon picnic. Despite late harvesting, I have known alfresco picnic snatched from the pressure of work that were ideal — cloudless blue sky, pleasant warmth, the lull of buzzing and whirling insects have a soothing effect on nerves distraught by fatigue and anxiety to which a farmer is prone at this critical time of year. After an Olympian lunch of tomato and egg sandwiches, fried chicken and cold fruit juice, there is a refreshing nap on the rich, warm earth that mothers us all.

The end of the month commemorates the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, known as Michalmas, September 29th, one of the old "quarter-days", when bills and rents were paid and all forms of business settled. In former times civic events and gala days were linked by the wisdom of the Church with the holy days, now "holidays". On Michaelmas Day the traditional roast goose was the centre of the feast, and recipe books of that day recommend an apple cooked in the pan to take away the greasy flavor. The correct stuffing was bread-crumbs, sage and onions, which still holds good if you have fattened a goose for Michaelmas.



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Yes, Magic makes flavors rise to ecstasy while it's perfecting the light, silken texture of your cake! For assurance and supreme satisfaction whenever you bake, rely on time-tried Magic Baking Powder—it costs less than 1¢ per average baking!

MAGIC NEAPOLITAN CAKE

2 cups once-sifted pastry flour
or 1½ cups once-sifted all-purpose flour
3 tbsps. Magic Baking Powder
½ tsp. salt
8 tbsps. butter or margarine
1 cup fine granulated sugar
2 eggs
¾ cup milk
1 tbsp. milk

½ tsp. vanilla
1 ounce unsweetened chocolate, melted
½ tsp. almond extract
Few drops green food coloring
(or pink, if preferred)
2 tbsps. toasted finely-chopped almonds
¼ tsp. ground cinnamon
¼ tsp. ground ginger
Few grains ground cloves

Grease an 8-inch angel cake pan and line bottom with greased paper. Preheat oven to 325° (rather slow). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar. Add unbeaten eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Measure the ¾ cup milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with three additions of milk and vanilla and combining lightly after each addition. Divide batter into three parts. Stir the 1 tbsp. milk and melted chocolate into one part; stir almond extract, green food coloring and almonds into second part; sprinkle cinnamon, ginger

and cloves over third part and stir to combine. Spoon batters alternately into prepared pan. Bake in preheated oven 50 to 55 minutes. Cover cold cake with the following Chocolate Butter Icing; decorate with toasted whole blanched almonds.

CHOCOLATE BUTTER ICING: Cream 4 tbsps. butter or margarine; work in 2 cups sifted icing sugar alternately with 3 tbsps. scalded cream, stirring in 3 ounces melted unsweetened chocolate after part of cream has been added. Add 1 unbeaten egg and ¼ tsp. vanilla; beat until icing begins to thicken; beat in a little more cream, if needed, to make an icing of smooth spreading consistency. Spread immediately on cold cake.

Tips on canned pork

THE modern homemaker includes canned meats in her weekly shopping list because she knows they are of good quality and are easy to use. Today there is a wide variety of such meats, each one giving good eating satisfaction. Homemakers are all interested in saving pennies and one way that they can really economize is to buy canned pork luncheon meat. There is plenty on the grocer's shelves now and it is very reasonable in price. The prices vary slightly in different areas but all brands are packed in 12-ounce cans so it is easy to figure the low price per serving. This canned meat is made from top quality pork.

The home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, stress that this economy meat may be included often in menus. Canned meat is rapidly becoming a

favorite with so many homemakers because they realize that there is not just one best meat for one purpose but there are usually several that can be used with equal success. Because of the changes in supply and demand, one meat may be the best buy one day and the next day another meat may wear a lower price tag. Today the economy meat is canned pork luncheon meat.

Canned pork luncheon meat can be served in a great number of ways but all of them are quick to prepare and none take long cooking. One way which people really enjoy luncheon meat is baked. To bake it, place a whole can or two on a shallow pan, score the meat lightly and heat in a 325° F. oven. The home economists say to "heat" rather than to "bake" because after all the luncheon meat is already cook-

ed and it only needs to be heated. The meat may be glazed with a mixture of equal parts of honey and brown sugar mixed to a paste with flour and dry mustard or it may be glazed with fruit juices or even jellies such as grape and red currants. This delicious hot loaf may be served for dinner with garden fresh vegetables, or it may be served cold with pickled beets or a jellied salad.

Pork luncheon meat may also be pan-fried or broiled. To either pan-fry or broil, it takes only five minutes to cook the slices. Prepared this way they are very good served with scrambled or fried eggs.

For the homemaker who wants simplicity to keynote her meals, main-dish casseroles are the thing to serve. Most casserole dishes are quick to prepare and can be made ahead of time. This makes them ideal to serve on days when everything is rushed and time is precious. Another important point in favor

of serving casserole dishes is that there is only one dish to wash, not two or three pots and pans.

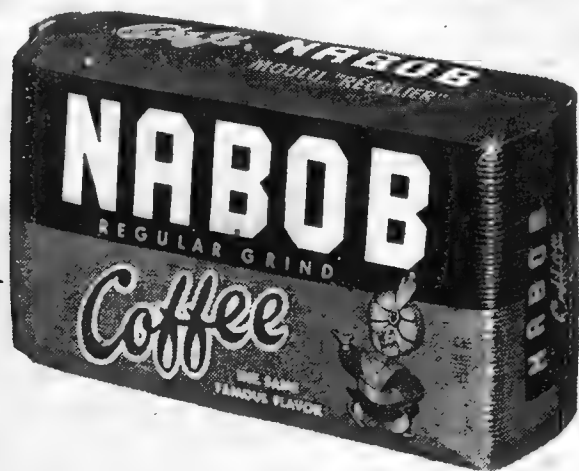
This canned pork luncheon meat is one canned meat that lends itself perfectly to being used in many combinations. For instance, macaroni or noodles and canned pork luncheon meat go well together. One such casserole which is really good has a layer of cooked noodles, the broad ones, as the bottom layer, then a layer of diced pork luncheon meat and the mixture is topped with either a cream sauce or a mushroom soup sauce. A little diced green pepper, a few sliced olives and some chopped nuts mixed in with the sauce gives added flavor to the casserole.

Every family enjoys ham and scalloped potatoes. Pork luncheon meat is an excellent and economical substitute for ham in this dish and it will be a welcome change.



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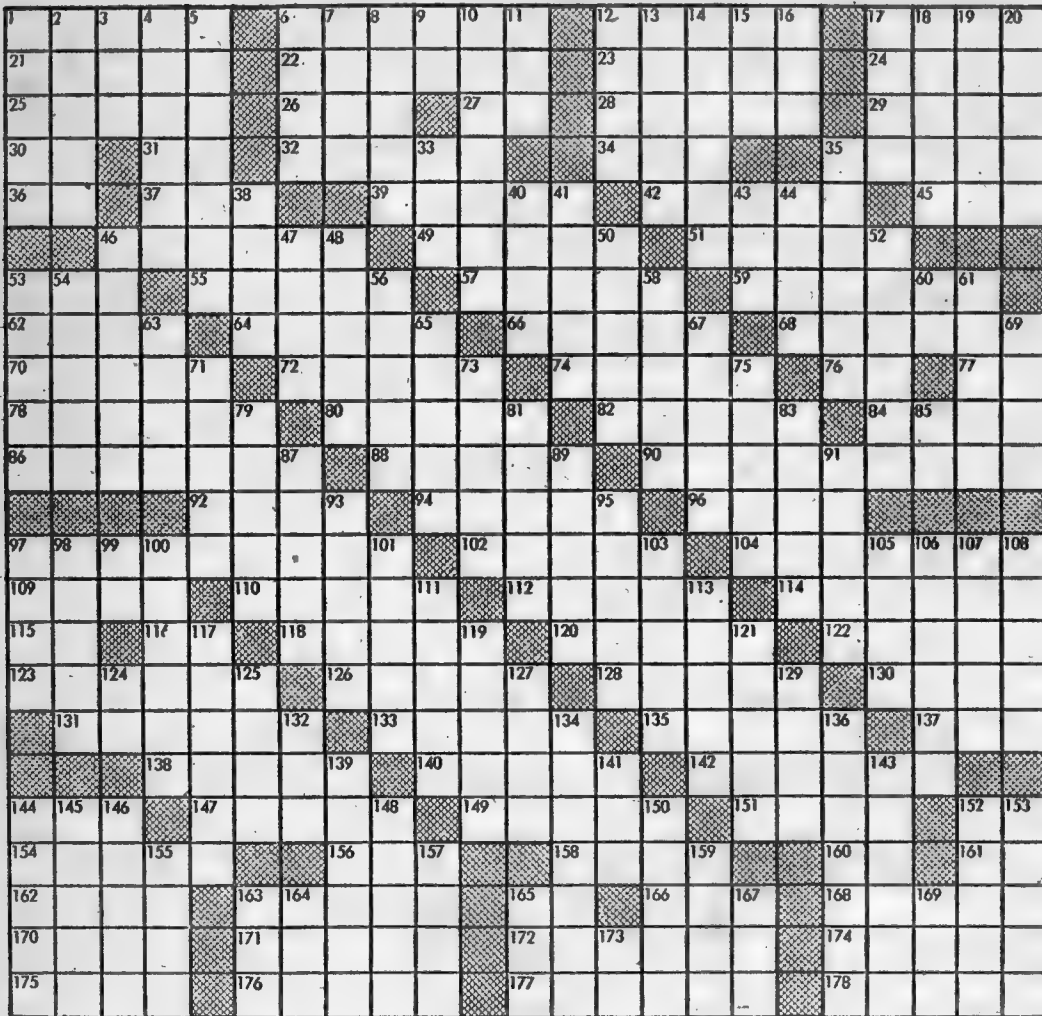


By LOUISE PRICE BELL

IF your small son or daughter begs for a bedtime story, be sure and read it to him because that is an important part of the daily routine in most homes and to most youngsters. After they are bathed, their teeth brushed, their beds open ready for them to pop into them as soon as they have said their prayers; sit down in a big comfortable chair or on the davenport and read the story of his choice. This is an excellent time to help build up an interest in the right kind of stories, too, to encourage certain ones, overlook exciting adventure ones

that aren't too good as sleep-inducers. In many homes the children who have formerly fussed about getting ready for bed, hurry through their nighttime chores because they want to be sure and have that longed-for story. Reading poetry, of which there is much that children like, is a good idea for bedtime, too, since its musical rhythm puts the child in a good mood for prayers and sleep. Remember, that even if the bedtime story has to be a short one, it shouldn't be overlooked a single night unless it is absolutely necessary.

OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE



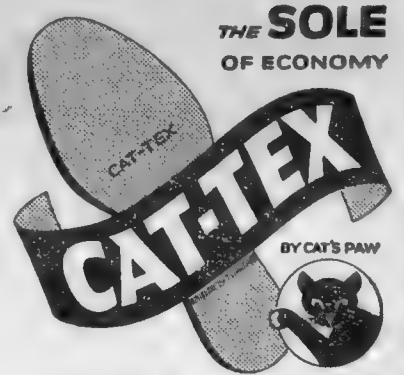
HORIZONTAL

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Big | 64 Prominent golfer | 126 Kind of Persian rug |
| 6 Wanderers | 66 The Florentine iris | 128 At no time |
| 12 Not fresh | 68 Frightened | 130 Decays |
| 17 Moccasins | 70 Amount at which a person is rated | 131 State |
| 21 Foreigner | 72 Island off west coast of Asia Minor | 133 Genus of herbs |
| 22 Large genus of aromatic herbs | 74 Irish poet | 135 A plexus of nerves (pl.) |
| 23 Region of which ancient Troy was capital | 76 Printer's measure | 137 Article |
| 24 Wings | 77 A Buddhist monk | 138 Pastoral |
| 25 Of fair complexion | 78 Chaplet | 140 A caravan-sary |
| 26 Joke | 80 Kind of car | 142 Roman matron's outer garment (pl.) |
| 27 3,1416 | 82 Kind of vessel | 144 Occupied a seat |
| 28 Eagle's nest | 84 Passionate ardor | 147 Make another offer |
| 29 Name of person, place, or thing | 86 Conducts affairs | 149 Mountains in S. Colorado |
| 30 Hawaiian bird | 88 Article of furniture (pl.) | 151 Heavenly body |
| 31 Roman number | 90 Diamond set by itself | 152 Bold face (abbr.) |
| 32 Sink | 92 Philippine negrito | 154 Mine entrances |
| 34 Flying mammal | 94 Jewish home festival | 156 Fortunate in India |
| 35 Gambling game like faro | 96 Hawaiian precipice | 158 An Old Testament race of Giants |
| 36 Football position (abbr.) | 97 Issuing, as a consequence | 160 To exist |
| 37 Pulpulent fruit | 102 Locations | 161 Prefix: not |
| 39 God of the wind (var.) | 104 Told | 162 Poison |
| 42 Italian poet | 109 Russian city | 163 Dislikes intensely |
| 45 River of England | 110 Pry about in a meddlesome manner | 165 Man's nickname |
| 46 Sleeping sickness fly | 112 Flower (abbr.) | 166 The turmeric |
| 49 Fixed tendencies | 114 Long, narrow pass | 168 Old-womanish |
| 51 Raffle | 115 The ambary of animals (abbr.) | 170 Wall molding |
| 53 Feminine name | 118 Burmese viol instrument | 171 Visible vapor |
| 55 Hinder from growth | 120 Abounding in snow | 172 Travelled |
| 57 Ascending step | 122 Friend of Pythias | 174 Skin disease of animals |
| 59 Colored | 123 Condition | 175 Group working together |
| 62 Flying creature | | 176 Waits upon |
| | | 177 Business entrusted to a messenger |
| | | 178 Item of property |

VERTICAL

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 To toll | 48 Defender of Troy | 105 From a distance |
| 2 Apportion | 50 Fathers | 106 Venezuelan Indian |
| 3 River (Sp.) | 52 Several lines of a poem | 107 Biblical city |
| 4 Exceptional mental, creative power | 53 Man's name | 108 Thick |
| 5 Plant whose leaves are used in salad (pl.) | 54 Italian goddess | 111 Sheet of window glass (pl.) |
| 6 Tattered cloths | 56 Domesticates | 113 Rescues |
| 7 Spoken | 58 Silver coin of Morocco (pl.) | 117 Forebodes |
| 8 Obscure | 60 Teutonic deity | 119 Beneath |
| 9 North Syrian deity | 61 To prohibit | 121 People related to Lithuanians |
| 10 Little waves | 63 Child's word for "father" | 124 Land measure |
| 11 A capuchin monkey | 65 Extinct flightless bird (pl.) | 125 Painful |
| 12 Pierce with pointed weapon | 67 Small veranda | 127 The turkey buzzard |
| 13 To walk | 69 Hand out sparingly | 129 Unruly outbreak |
| 14 Main blood stream (pl.) | 71 Lawful | 132 To apprehend |
| 15 Burmese mongoloid | 73 Storage place for valuables (pl.) | 134 Bullfighter |
| 16 Holland commune | 75 Pertaining to the sun | 136 Winner of 1953 Orange Bowl game |
| 17 Breathe in quick gasps | 79 Encounters | 139 Pay attention to |
| 18 Audibly | 81 Lowest point | 141 Electrified particle |
| 19 That which produces an effect | 83 Heaped | 143 Place of combat (pl.) |
| 20 Intelligence | 85 Either, a notehand | 144 Wooden shoe |
| 23 Unruly gathering | 87 Allotted task | 145 Proverb |
| 25 Spiritualist's meeting | 89 Surgical thread | 146 Fungus skin disease |
| 28 Siamese coin (pl.) | 91 Covered with pieces of fired clay | 148 Fear |
| 40 Preposition | 93 Wild ox of the Celebes (pl.) | 150 Timber tree of the Philippines |
| 41 Sheer | 95 Pine tree exudation | 152 Protuberant part of a cask |
| 43 A negative | 97 Measure of length (pl.) | 153 Rapid |
| 44 Nickname of famous Cleveland outfielder | 98 Muse of poetry | 155 Abound |
| 46 A plaid | 99 A direction | 157 Doctrines |
| 47 Exposes to a solar body | 100 Long, loose overcoat | 159 Sharp |
| | 101 Pierces with horns | 163 Initials of a President |
| | 103 To cut | 164 Consumed |
| | | 165 French for "summer" |
| | | 167 To sum up |
| | | 169 Those in power |
| | | 173 City in Chaldea |

SOLUTION NEXT MONTH



- 4 cups finely chopped celery
4 cups finely chopped cabbage
4 cups finely chopped onions
1/2 cup Keen's Mustard
1 1/2 cups sugar
2 tablespoons flour
1/2 tablespoon turmeric
3 cups diluted vinegar

Cover celery, cabbage and onions with brine (1/2 cup to 1 quart water). Allow to stand overnight. Drain well. Combine dry ingredients with vinegar. Bring to boil. Add chopped vegetables and boil for 20 mins. Put into sterilized jars. Cool and cover with hot paraffin.

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Rainfall and conservation

SEVEN-TENTHS of an inch in seven minutes is a lot of rain for Alberta. That was the amount recorded at St. Albert recently by the Department of Soils, University of Alberta. The storm occurred last July 30, starting around 11:30 p.m. Never before in the Edmonton district has so rapid a down-pour been recorded. As a result, erosion damage to one of the plots supervised by Dr. J. A. Toogood, Associate Professor of Soils, showed soil losses at the rate of 9,000 pounds per acre. On an adjoining plot, soil loss was negligible.

It was in 1949 that these plots, eight in number, were established at St. Albert. They are each one one-hundredth of an acre in area and are located on a uniform 12 per cent slope (12 foot rise in a 100 foot run). They are designed to study the effects of crop cover, crop rotation, and intensity of rainfall on the amount of run-off and soil loss. One of the plots was retained as virgin sod, two are under a wheat-fallow rotation, and the remaining five features a five-year rotation of wheat, oats, barley, hay.

It was the summerfallow of the wheat-fallow rotation that took such a beating during the storm. The natural prairie plot was the one from which the clear water run-off indicated negligible erosion. The wheat plot of the wheat-fallow rotation showed some loss but its thick crop cover afforded considerable protection from the pulverizing effects of the rain.

It is this pulverization, this breaking up of the soil structure, that causes so much damage during a heavy rain, Dr. Toogood says. Normally, soil particles come together to form tiny clumps or aggregates of organic and inorganic matter. These aggregates are little affected by a gentle rain, even of long duration. A heavy rain, however, strikes so forcefully on an unprotected soil surface that the soil particles are separated and many of them swept away. Others, pounded into the soil, plug the soil pores and by preventing the water from soaking in they further increase the run-off.

Crop cover, to break the rain drops as they fall and prevent dispersal of the tiny soil particles, is of prime importance in soil protection. Grass down the



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runways, Dr. Toogood advises, and keep your land so covered with crops or trash that the soil remains anchored during the heaviest storms.

Summer-fallow on irrigated land

By S. DUBETZ
Irrigation Agronomist

Summer-fallow operations are carried out for two main purposes — one is to control weeds and the other is to conserve moisture for the subsequent crop. The second factor is of no consequence under irrigation farming where moisture can be controlled. Because irrigated agriculture is more diversified and intensive, such practices as the growing of row crops and perennial legumes tend to minimize the weed problem.

In a crop sequence test carried out at the Lethbridge Experimental Station, crops grown after beans and canning peas yielded as high as, or higher than, when grown after summer-fallow. In this experiment, the following seven cash crops were grown — canning peas, canning corn, beans, potatoes, sugar beets, soft spring wheat, and barley.

The whole plot area was fertilized with 100 pounds per acre of ammonium phosphate (11-48-0) prior to planting the crops. The average gross returns from these crops grown after beans, canning peas, and summer-fallow were \$183, \$178, and \$160 per acre respectively. The comparative cash returns from fallowing are not very encouraging, since it takes two years to produce one crop.

This experiment shows that with a proper fertility program there is no need to summer-fallow under irrigation farming. However, there are exceptions when a serious weed infestation or a land-leveling program may justify its need.

Soil drifting is a major problem in Southern Alberta, where strong winter and early spring winds prevail, and land that has been fallowed is more vulnerable to wind erosion.

The higher cost of operation under intensive irrigation farming does not warrant the practice of summer-fallowing. Proper rotations, along with adequate fertilizer applications, should enable the farmer to harvest a successful crop every year on his irrigated land.

TRACE MINERALS did not cure or prevent brucellosis in University of Wisconsin tests. Veterinarians tested trace minerals which had been sold as brucellosis cures or preventives. None of them had any visible effect.



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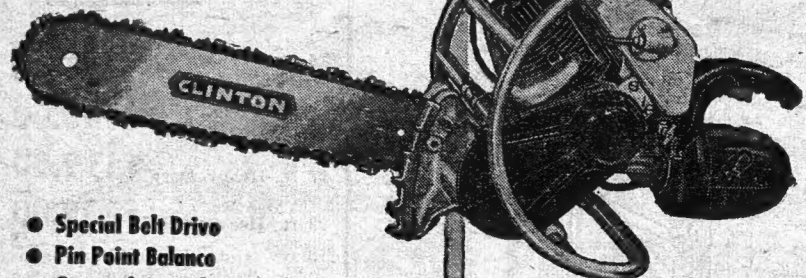
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In the good old days everybody started on shoestrings

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

"WHEN I made my start, I didn't have two nickles in my pockets to rub together." Old-timers who have made good in the West delight in making this assertion to the younger generation.

It is true. Coming West with nothing but their blanket roll, they found work, perhaps freighting or construction work on the railway. As soon as they had ten dollars to the good, they filed on the homestead of their choice, and continued working out until they had the bare necessities to make a start. This often amounted to enough to buy a team of horses or oxen, a harness, a few tools to work with, a camp stove, and the barest essentials for the home, as well as a few groceries.

Come spring, the settler quit his paying job and proceeded with homestead duties. First, he must have a shack to live in. If his homestead was in a timbered area, this did not present much of a problem. Logs could usually be got from the homestead. If not, for fifty cents he could get a permit to cut timber for his house and other buildings, rails for fencing and thirty cords of dry wood for firewood.

The logs for the buildings were snigged to the homesite, and usually some kindly neighbor lent a hand, and timely advice to the tenderfoot in the building of his shack.

The roof of the shack was usually made with one slant, sloping towards the south. Poles were first laid on close together and covered with prairie

shingles, that is sods cut in even lengths and placed close together on the roof, grassy side down. When the roof was all covered, a second layer was laid on, these placed overlapping like shingles with the grassy side up.

If the sod roof was put on in the spring, just before a rain, a good roof growth started, making the roof more secure. A sod roof properly made, remained waterproof for years and was also very warm.

The first shack of the homesteader of then had a door of poles and the bare earth for a floor. The floor soon wore smooth and hard, almost like cement.

The furnishings of the early shacks were meagre. A pole bed built into the wall in box fashion and filled with hay, a box, or the butt end of a log for a chair, a box for a table if it was available; otherwise this, too, was made of poles. These meagre furnishings sufficed for the homesteader who started on a shoestring.

A man with a wife and family usually waited until he had something ahead towards building and furnishing a larger house before making a start on the homestead.

After the shack was put up, a log shelter for the horses or oxen and a pasture fence was put up. The latter was usually a snake fence, made with poles, zig-zag fashion.

It usually took two or three years, for a homesteader, starting empty handed, to get a start on his land. As a rule, he put in his homestead duties in summer and went elsewhere to procure work in the winter, so that he might buy implements to carry on and realize some returns from his land.

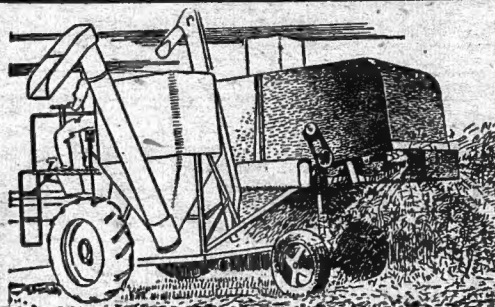
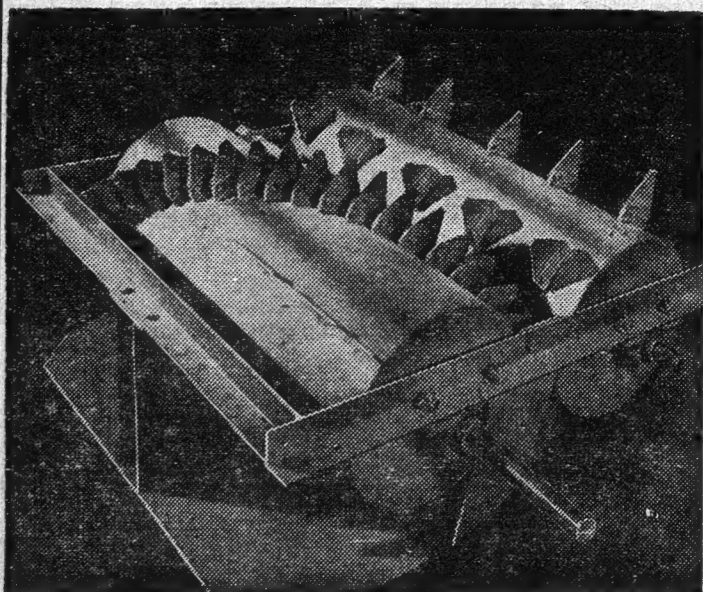
Many of the first homesteaders were "grub-staked" by the merchants. They were allowed to buy their groceries on time perhaps for a year or eighteen months, until they could get established and earn the money for groceries, or realize some returns from the land.

The merchant often lost out on this, deal, for it was usually only a verbal one. Very few transactions were done on paper in the very early days, for a man's word was supposed to be as good as his bond.

It was hard, up-hill work, this getting a start on a "shoestring," and only the kindly co-operation of neighbors, the spirit of give and take, or lend and borrow, made the early settlement of the West possible.

However exacting the hardships and privations of pioneer life on the western prairies might have been, it developed a strong, self-reliant and courageous people, undaunted by discouragements or adversity.

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From staunch **NOVA SCOTIA**, home Province of so many of our famous ships and famous men, came the forebears of many Canadians who now live in other parts of our land. In Nova Scotia too, Pontiac enjoys an ever-growing reputation for quality and value.



A salute also to **NEW BRUNSWICK**, that Province so abundantly blessed with sparkling waterways, noble forests and peaceful seaside coves. On the tree-shaded streets of her historic cities, you'll see many a Pontiac glide by.



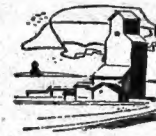
Nowhere in North America is there a region more justly famed than the Province of **QUEBEC**. Here, where vigorous new industries are growing amid picturesque rural surroundings, more and more people are turning to Pontiac for all their motoring needs.



There's wholehearted acceptance of Pontiac in the Province of **ONTARIO**, industrial heartland of the nation, whose busy factories are producing more and more of the goods which have helped to give Canadians the second-highest living standard in the world.



Across the rolling grainfields of **MANITOBA**, there's an eager new stirring of interest and enterprise as Canada's horizons grow wider and new frontiers are developed. And many Manitobans have discovered that "Dollar for Dollar, You Can't Beat Pontiac."



Our thanks go also to another young and forward-looking Province, **SASKATCHEWAN**, where yesterday's achievements are already overshadowed by tomorrow's promise. In this Prairie Province, too, Pontiac's popularity is climbing fast.



All eyes are on **ALBERTA**, the dynamic source of the new and mighty Canadian petroleum industry. Each month, more and more Canadian-produced fuel is available for our automobiles. Each month, more and more of those automobiles are Pontiacs!



Across the Rockies now to **BRITISH COLUMBIA**, land of magnificent opportunity. Small wonder that this is Canada's fastest-growing Province. Here, as elsewhere, Pontiac has won a leading place in public favor. And so, our thanks go to you, wherever you are, for making Pontiac the fastest growing car in popularity!

for
making

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A
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VALUE

"CATERPILLAR" OWNERS point the way to PAYLOAD FARMING!

Here are the firm opinions of experienced men whose livelihood depends on their knowledge of the land — and the machines they use on it!

1. Mr. George Archibald, R.R. No. 3, Lacombe, Alberta.

"We owned one of the earliest models of the 'CAT' D2 Tractor and liked it so well for our farm work we decided to buy one of the newer models. We have used our new 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2 Tractor for every farming operation on the place, including plowing, harvesting, stump breaking and swamp breaking in real heavy muskeg land, and even on the heaviest work we found we always had plenty of power and traction for the job. Our fuel consumption has never been over one and one-half gallons per hour on our heaviest work of breaking muskeg. We have had no expense for repairs whatsoever. We are very pleased with our new 'Caterpillar' D2 and the excellent service it has given us. There was approximately 100 acres of muskeg bottom on our farm which we never could have broken with any other kind of tractor power. This land when in production will more than pay the initial cost of our 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2. The wide gauge with the 20" shoes gave us ample power for this special type of work."

2. Mr. W. D. Bell, Caroline, Alberta.

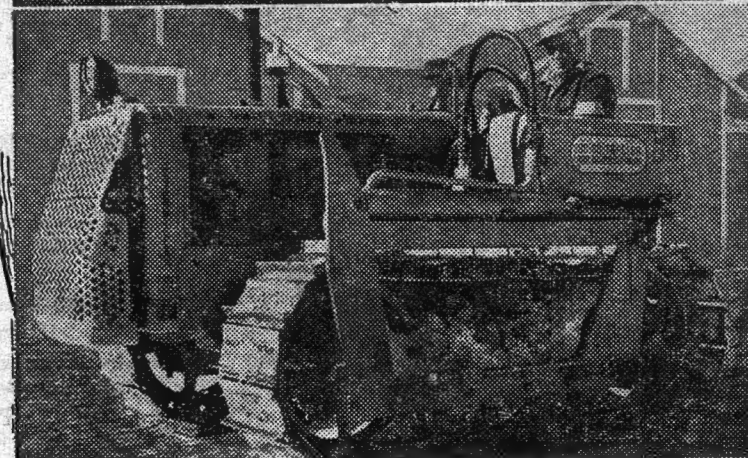
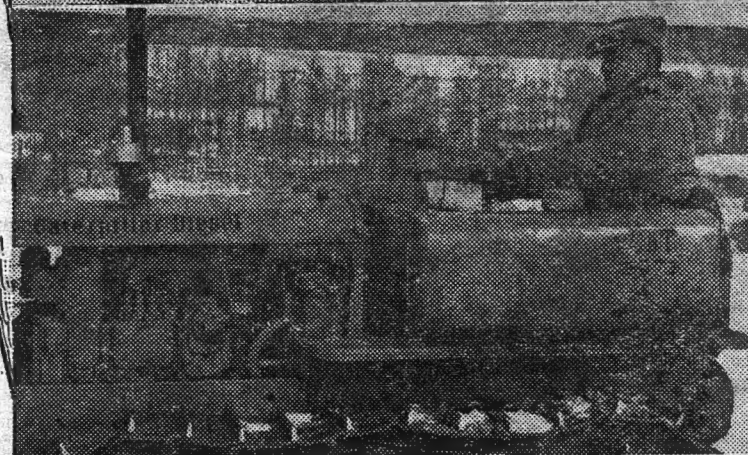
"I purchased my 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2 Tractor in November, 1952, and have been hauling logs continuously since that time. I am well pleased with the service it has given me and I also find it very economical to operate. I find it has sufficient power to do all the jobs we run up against and that we can get into and out of our cuts with no trouble whatsoever. We are hauling about two-thirds of our own weight on each trip. The D2 is earning approximately \$10.00 per meter hour on this logging haul. My fuel, oil and operator's expense run approximately \$2.00 per meter hour. I would especially like to mention that my relations with my 'Caterpillar' distributors have been very pleasing to me and that their Service leaves nothing to be desired. I am very pleased with my equipment in every way."

3. Mr. A. Stopson, Box 72, Eckville, Alberta.

"I first started farming with a steel-wheel tractor and while I had plenty of power I was always short of traction on my hilly farm. We changed the wheels on this first tractor and put on rubber tires in the hope that it would increase our traction but such was not the case. When we finally purchased our 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2 Tractor we found out for the first time just what real traction was. In fact, the machines which we could not pull with our previous tractor are now on the small side for our D2. Now that we have a real chance to try it out on our hilly conditions we would not trade it for any other make. Our D2 has plenty of power to handle any of our machines anywhere on the farm, under any conditions. Most important still — we can get our work done on time."

4. Mr. William Olson, R.R. No. 3, Red Deer, Alberta.

"I am farming a half-section of very hilly, wet land and have been using my 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2 Tractor for breaking. Much of our land could not have been put into production with a wheel-type tractor, but we can certainly get our work done with the D2. We have plenty of power and traction to haul our implements anywhere on the farm and we find the D2 very economical to operate. We also use our tractor on a large ensilage cutter for cutting feed and find we have plenty of power on the belt to run this big machine at full capacity. I would very strongly recommend a 'Caterpillar' Diesel D2 to any one who needs positive traction, plus low cost power on their farm."



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Mr. G. M. Hewson, Longbank, Saskatchewan
"Because I have a Fordson Major Diesel full track that has proved very satisfactory, and because buying British goods supplies dollars to buy our wheat, I bought a new Fordson Major Diesel wheel tractor and cultivator last fall. This Major and cultivator combination is a great boon. I was on the land much earlier than I could have been with the usual power lift. If I had not had this Major-cultivator combination to help dry the ground out in the wet Spring, my seeding would have been much later. My Fordson Major Diesel is very sparing on fuel and certainly surpasses my other wheel tractor, which is a 3-4 plow one, in power".



Mr. Harold Knowles, Barrie, Ontario. "For the past 22 years I have been farming in Simcoe County as well as doing hundreds of acres of custom work each year. During that time I have had several types and makes of tractors. Naturally, I am interested in economy and dependability the year 'round, so last year I bought a Fordson Major Diesel. In my opinion there is no finer tractor to suit the needs of every farmer in modern day farming. For example, in 50 acres of full-depth cultivating, this tractor used only 14 gals. of fuel, which cost less than \$3.00. Its instant starting even on the coldest days in winter, its manoeuvrability and unlimited power are only a few of the many advantages in owning a Fordson Major Diesel."



Mr. Parley Goodline, Plaster Rock, New Brunswick
"I have been logging and working around mills practically all my life, and I find my new Fordson Major Diesel the most useful tractor yet. I use it hauling logs and it runs my small mill. It is exceptionally cheap to operate—6 gallons per 8-hour day. Other points which I think are exceptional are: (1) Its ruggedness. (2) Its power. (In tests in this area it has outlasted all other makes of comparative size and some even larger.) (3) The steering requires little effort. (4) The low price also is a big point to me. I am more than pleased with my Major Diesel and would recommend it to any farmer, lumberman or industrial user."



Mr. Art. Knutt, Emerson, Manitoba
"I bought my Fordson Major Diesel Tractor in April this year. We seeded 1100 acres of crop with a 28-run drill and averaged better than 7/8 gal. of fuel per working hour. On summer fallow it had ample power for our 14-foot cultivator at 1 1/2 gal. of fuel per hour. The Major is a wonder for spraying, because of the excellent ground speeds of the 6-speed transmission. It turns in its own length and steers easily. We have approximately 751 hours on our Major to date, all trouble free hours, no mechanical or structural failures. I can honestly recommend the Major Diesel to my neighbours."

The
New

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